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Arts special, page 25



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Pages 17-24

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THE TIMES

No. 64,836 MONDAY DECEMBER 27 1993

NSPCC challenges Bottomley

Home-alone children 'need tougher law'

BY LIN JENKINS

■ The plight of children who were left on their own over Christmas has brought calls for tougher laws and the promotion of responsible parenthood

VIRGINIA Bottomley was challenged last night to take urgent action to combat a spate of cases in which parents have left young children on their own.

Child care agencies, police and MPs demanded new child protection laws after nine children, one only a year old, were found on their own over the Christmas period.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) led calls for the Health Secretary to ensure that nobody under the age of 16 looked after younger children. The Labour Party also demanded more prosecutions of parents who left young children alone.

The pressure followed the latest case in which a nine-year-old girl was taken into care after her father left her on Christmas Day while he went out drinking. A 14-year-old babysitter returned home leaving the child, who had not eaten since the evening before, on her own in Leeds.

A social worker found the child in the house where there were no sheets on the bed. She was placed in foster care, and given clothes and shoes.The girl was presented with some of the gifts, handed in to Millgarth police station in Leeds, for three children who, in a earlier incident, were rescued from appalling conditions at home.

In Brighton, a two-year-old boy found locked in a filthy bedroom also spent the holiday with a foster family. His father was charged with cruelty and will appear in court in February.

Four more children were given to foster parents after they were found on their own on Friday in Sheffield. The mother of the four aged 12, ten, three and a year was released on bail by police.

As the NSPCC claimed that the number of calls about children left alone has risen to 60 a month, the charity advised that nobody under 16 should be left in charge of younger children.

The charity called for funding to find out the extent of problems over child care. Only on that basis could there be a legal minimum age for babysitters and limit for a parent's absence.

An NSPCC spokesman said: "Nobody knows the extent of the problem, but the number of calls we have on this has risen to 60 a month. Leaving a child alone is not actually an offence, nor a category on the 'at risk' register." She said consideration had to be given to a legal minimum age for babysitters and the period of time a parent could be absent. The NSPCC says no child under 13 should be left alone and no child under 16 left overnight.

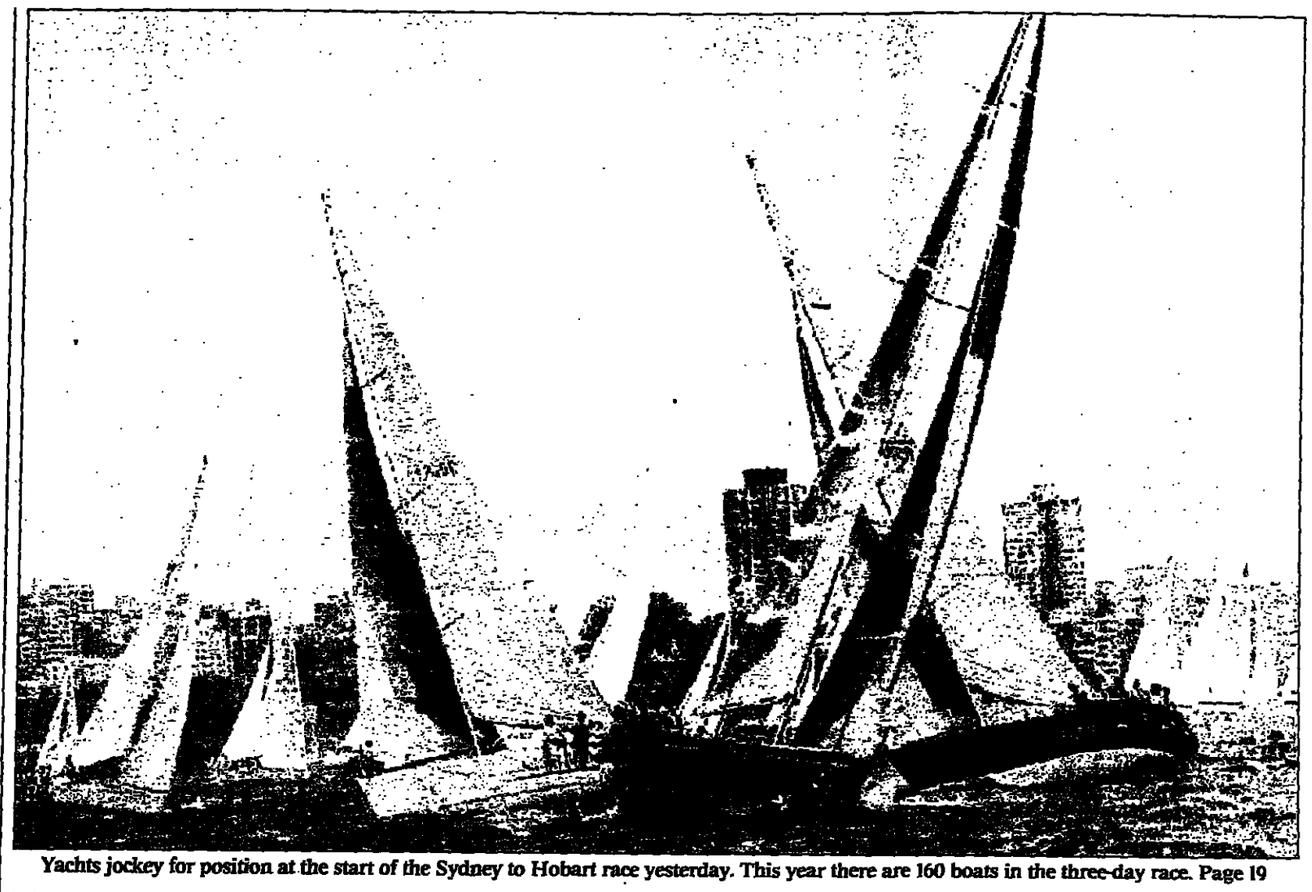
David Blunkett, Labour's shadow health secretary, accused Mrs Bottomley of failing to put across the message that the state and individuals have a shared responsibility for bringing up children.

"It is time for Virginia Bottomley to cut out meaningless pap and to accept responsibility for her own Government's failings ... In Britain we have the lowest level of child care in Europe with the exception of Portugal."

However, Mrs Bottomley said the Government had discharged its part in the 1989 Children Act. A change in attitudes was needed through church and community, emphasising moral values and friends and neighbours playing a part.

She said: "Some parents simply cannot cope and they should be able to say 'Help. I can't do it'."

Archbishop of Canterbury, 14



Yachts jockey for position at the start of the Sydney to Hobart race yesterday. This year there are 160 boats in the three-day race. Page 19

IN THE NEW YEAR TIMES

A Crown in danger



John Grigg reflects on the year that shook the monarchy and brought Australia closer to becoming a republic.

Scandals and secrets

It was Harold Macmillan's annus horribilis, the year we rediscovered satire — and the time of the Christine Keeler scandal, when the nation awaited each day's new revelations. Alistair Horne examines the newly released Public Records for 1963.

Also ...

Triumphs and disasters. John Goodbody's Quiz of the Sporting Year.

Arts	25-26
Births, marriages, deaths	14
Books	27
Business	29-30,32
Chess	6,32
Christmas sermons	14
Court and Social	14
Crossword	16
Diary	12
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Obituaries	15
Racing	23
Sport	17-24
Times Today	16
Times Two Crossword	32
Weather	16
TV & Radio	31

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52

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Support from Major for love child minister

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

JOHN Major and senior members of the government yesterday stood behind Tim Yeo, the countryside minister, who has admitted to being the father of a secret love child.

Informed government sources said that the prime minister regarded Mr Yeo's admission as being a "purely private matter". Mr Major, it was made clear, was not calling on the minister, one of the government's rising stars, to resign.

However, the disclosure will be seen as a source of some embarrassment to the government because senior Cabinet ministers have highlighted the need to reduce the number of single mothers. Mr Major has made plain his distaste at ministers being hounded out of office because of disclosures in the tabloid press.

He supported Steven Norris, junior transport minister, in the face of calls for his resignation after the disclosure that he had affairs with several women. He also supported David Mellor the former heritage secretary, after demands that he should stand down because of his relationship with Antonia de Sancha.

Mr Yeo works under John Gummer, environment secretary and a leading Anglican churchman. But it was made plain yesterday by close colleagues that Mr Gummer does not believe their working relationship should be affected.

Former Tory MP Ivor Stanbrook, a constitutional lawyer, said last night: "If ministers cannot adhere to the moral standards they are preaching every day, they ought not to stay in office."

Mr Yeo admitted the relationship in a statement on Saturday. He said that he had had an affair with Julia Stent, a Conservative councillor in Hackney, and was the father of Claudia-Marie who was born in July.

The statement issued through his solicitor, Peter Carter-Ruck, said that he and Miss Stent "had for some time a close relationship which developed into an affair".

The statement said: "We remain close friends and I have accepted responsibility for our child. My wife and family are aware of the extent of our relationship". Mrs Diane Yeo, — the couple have two children — is reported to be standing behind him.



Yeo: "An entirely private matter"

He said that Ms Stent had decided not publicly to identify the father and "strongly resents that, in order to put an end to speculation in some quarters of the media, she now finds it necessary to do so. I make this statement with her approval".

Mr Yeo, who is abroad with his family over Christmas, added: "I regard my relationship with Julia Stent as an entirely private matter which has no bearing upon our respective political duties."

The protectors, page 5

Thatcher 'hates' her 24-hour security

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BARONESS Thatcher has given a rare insight into her frustration at the high personal security she is still forced to adopt more than two years after she ceased to be Prime Minister.

In a unique television documentary to be screened by ITV next year the former Prime Minister admits that she hates the restrictions on her personal life following the IRA bombing of the Grand Hotel in Brighton in 1984.

She says: "It constrains your activities very much indeed ... If you are at home on a Saturday morning, you cannot just dash out around the corner to the nearest supermarket or to the local grocer, you have to have someone with you."

However, Lady Thatcher says she has no intention of giving up her high public profile, despite the threat to her safety from the IRA, because to do so would be to lead "only half a life".

Lady Thatcher gave the television crew unprecedented access to the members of Scotland Yard's A squad who provide her with round-the-clock protection, for one episode of the six-part fly-on-the-wall series, *Scotland Yard*, which focuses on the undercover work of the Metropolitan police.

For the first time, Detective Chief Superintendent Eileen Eggington, head of Special Branch's "prot squad" and one of the most senior women in the Metropolitan police, gives an in-depth interview detailing the work of the A Squad, which is responsible for protecting figures such as Lady Thatcher and Salman

Continued on page 5, col 1

Visas for Jamaicans likely, say critics

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

IMMIGRANT welfare officials yesterday predicted that the detention of a plane load of Jamaicans at Gatwick airport could presage the imposition of visa requirements on people travelling to Britain from the Caribbean.

A similar demand for visas was imposed on people from the Indian sub-continent in the mid 1980s following an influx of visitors from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Claude Moraes, director of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, said: "What we saw at Gatwick is the prelude to the Government insisting that people from Jamaica need visas before they can enter the country." He said a climate of fear was being created in which Jamaican visitors were linked with criminal activities allegedly involving yardie gangs and drugs. "The government will use this climate to justify introducing visa requirements", he said.

As a Labour MP demanded that John Major confirm or deny that a special immigration operation had been mounted to deal with the Jamaicans, 27 travellers arrived back in Jamaica yesterday. They had been banned

Continued on page 2, col 4

Leading article, page 13

Hostages released as gang flees with $10m

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

FOUR heavily armed gunmen who seized a military helicopter and secured a $10-million (£6.8 million) government ransom after kidnapping a group of schoolchildren and adults last night released the last of their teenage hostages and abandoned the aircraft in a remote part of southern Russia.

They took off from the spa town of Mineralniye Vody and landed shortly afterwards in the small town of Gerzhel near Makhachkala, capital of the autonomous republic of Dagestan on the next leg of their planned escape to Iran. There they released their remaining hostages, two military pilots, and abandoned the helicopter, fleeing with the $10 million.

The gang, believed to consist of two Armenians, a Chechen and a Korean, allowed the two 16-year-olds they had held since Thursday to leave the aircraft last night together with a bus driver.

The decision to release all civilian hostages was a sudden change of plan by the men. They had originally told Valentina Petrenko, the chief government negotiator, that they would only release the schoolboys if she agreed to replace them there as a hostage.

Army sharpshooters and elite Spetsnaz troops surrounded the helicopter throughout the weekend but the hijackers threatened to blow up the aircraft if any attempt was made to storm the aircraft. Russian television reported that they had told government negotiators they were suffering from Aids and had nothing left to lose.

Seasonal weather causes havoc on Britain's roads

BY EDWARD GORMAN

TWO fatal accidents and a 19-car pile-up were among a catalogue of Christmas accidents as freezing temperatures and snow hit much of the country.

Flooding was still affecting many parts of Hereford & Worcester and Shropshire, and weathermen gave a warning that it could get worse again tomorrow when warmer air is set to move in, bringing more rain from the west and a thaw on the hills.

About 100 British passengers on board the Brittany Ferries cruise ship *Bretagne* had their return to Devon delayed by force ten gales in the Bay of Biscay on Christmas Eve. After spending an unscheduled Christmas Day on board the vessel in the French port of Lorient, they arrived home early yesterday morning.

On the M6, police blamed black ice for a pile-up yesterday and for a series of smaller crashes as following cars ran into tailbacks. The accident caused a five-mile traffic jam on the northbound carriageway from junction 10 at Walsall. One man was taken to hospital suffering from chest injuries but his condition was not serious.

After another accident on the M25 near Gerrards Cross in Buckinghamshire yesterday, a mother and her eight-year-old son were air-lifted to hospital. The boy had serious head injuries, the mother suffering from whiplash. Three other people were taken to hospital by ambulance.

In two earlier accidents, a 53-year-old man died when his car skidded on ice at Burlingham in Norfolk and a man was killed on Christmas Day in a crash at Scalby in North Yorkshire.

While the Automobile Association reported a generally "very quiet" Bank Holiday Sunday, the organisation still rescued no less than 7,000 motorists who broke down on Christmas Day, most discovering that their engines had frozen up.

Unfortunately for the bookmakers, the snow made it to almost all parts of the country at some point on Christmas Day, costing them around £75,000. Weather centres in London, Glasgow and Plymouth were the only ones not to report even a solitary flake of snow or a momentary sleet shower necessary for an official "white Christmas".

Not to be deterred William Hill opened its book on next year, offering 6-1 against snow falling on December 25, 1994. A businessman from Leeds was thought to be among the biggest winners after placing a £500 bet at

Continued on page 2, col 3

European storms, page 7
Forecast, page 16

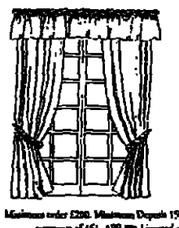
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Patten considers nursery vouchers

John Major's drive towards full nursery education for all three- and four-year-olds may centre on a voucher scheme allowing parents to send children to state or private nursery schools. John Patten, the Education Secretary, is to study plans which would push Britain higher up the European league of education for the under-fives. Several plans are being drawn up by officials to add extra weight to the Prime Minister's aim of wider nursery education. Mr Major said last week that education for under-fives would be introduced across the country when it became affordable.

However, the costs of bringing local authority provision into line with the best areas of the country are seen as prohibitive. The voucher system is regarded as a way of helping parents to afford nursery education, possibly through private nurseries. With the costs of providing universal state nursery education estimated to be more than £750 million, vouchers would allow greater flexibility than simply increasing the number of state-run nurseries.

Gretna sets a record

The Scottish village of Gretna, famous in the past for runaways' weddings, is marrying more couples than ever. Christmas Eve, with a further 21 marriages, the maximum possible in the new area register office in a day, brought the total so far for 1993 to 3,312 couples, an 11 per cent increase on last year's record. By New Year's Eve the year's total will be 3,360, and hundreds of couples have already booked for next year. Alison Quigley, the area registrar, said few couples realised that Gretna railway station had been reopened and most still took a taxi from Carlisle.

Royal Thalidomide plea

A Thalidomide victim, who has been on hunger strike since Christmas Eve to get a public enquiry into the drug, is asking the Queen for help. He wants her to take the Royal Warrant away from Guinness, which now owns the drug's makers, the Distillers Company. Freddie Astbury, 33, of Croxteth, Liverpool, who was born without arms and legs, was awarded £30,856 from the Thalidomide Trust in 1976. He says that laywers miscalculated the level of compensation and wants a public enquiry into the affair and into the Thalidomide Trust.

Police to interview girls

The two girls raped by a gang of youths just off a busy street in southeast London will be fully interviewed today after being left alone for Christmas, police said yesterday. The girls, aged 14 and 15, had got off a bus in Rushey Green on Wednesday evening and were entering a burger bar when four youths asked them for cigarettes. The teenagers were then dragged into a nearby alleyway, where they were held down and raped by six youths while others looked on. Police said the two victims were white and the gang was mostly black but that it was not thought to be a racial incident.

Morris men out of step

A morris dance group from Alford, Lincolnshire, is considering letting women join because of problems it is having attracting new members. It will meet next month to discuss the issue as an alternative to disbandment after 16 years. Some of the group have threatened to resign rather than see women join their ranks.

Boy rescued in error

Doctors have discovered that a Bosnian boy flown to Britain in an airlift of sick children has nothing wrong with him. Emir Nefic, 3, was taken to Birmingham Children's hospital with his mother for urgent leukaemia treatment. But after tests, the Health Department said he was well. The error will raise questions about selection procedures for airlifts.

Researchers needed

Research charities are worried by a drop in the number of students choosing science-only A levels who might go on to combat future diseases. The Research for Health Charities group appealed for more consideration of medical research as a career. The group believes potential recruits are being lured by lucrative posts in high-tech industries.

£2,500 a head: the sales tag on illegal human cargo

By Michael Horsnell

PACKED like sardines beneath a false floor in a box van, illegal immigrants are driven off the cross-Channel ferry into the fast-flow EC lanes at Dover only to be discovered by immigration officials suspicious of their vehicle.

Others similarly hidden make it through the controls before being abandoned outside the docks, where they are liable to detection because of their poor English and efforts to find the railway station. Those who make it beyond both initial phases of illegal immigration may be found months later working for a pittance in restaurants or on farms.

This increasing human cargo, now linked to organised crime, stirs sympathy in immigration officers, who detain the "illegals", and in Special Branch, which is responsible for catching the "facilitators" who earn up to £2,500 per head for smuggling them in.

Det Insp Tony Masters, at the ports office of Kent police, said: "At their worst they probably haven't washed for 24 hours, perhaps they haven't eaten and at this time of the year their clothing is not substantial enough to keep out the cold.

"You can understand how they want to enter the UK. They have heard of a better standard of life and I don't blame them for trying. It's the organisers who need to be stopped."

In 1992, 14,951 illegal immigrants were turned back at ports and airports and 5,673 were detected inside the country. The statistics for 1993 will not be published until October, but if Dover reflects experience elsewhere there will have been a 160 per cent increase in the number of illegals detected trying to enter. In the same period the number of fraudulent EC travel documents detected has increased by 75 per cent.

The increase is partly due to confusion about the impact of the single European market, which ended internal trade barriers on January 1. Customs checks are less overt, but immigration controls continue to operate in accordance with the 1971 Immigration Act and passports have to be shown.

Charles Wardle, a Home Office minister, said: "Since the introduction of the single European market we have been keen to ensure there is no reduction in the effectiveness of our control of passengers arriving from other EC member states. We intend to keep up the fight against this sort of traffic coming through Dover and other ports." Joint training programmes for immigration officers and police have been launched and sniffer dogs introduced to detect stowaways.

Mr Masters said: "Whether the increase is because people believe it's easier to enter or because the organisers see a way of making a lot of money with less chance of being detected now trade barriers are down, it's difficult to say.

"There's no doubt there is organised crime involvement. It's a cheaper racket than drugs and penalties are less severe. Bring in ten at £2,500 a head and you don't need to be a mathematician to work out how profitable it can be."

For every illegal caught entering, another ten are believed to get through, which means that 150,000 may have gone undetected in 1992. Unofficial estimates put the cost to the economy at more than £1 billion.

Kent police have arrested 70 facilitators this year. They included people with British passports, but many are immigrants. Police intelligence sources, which are limited, suggest that illegals who are caught but keep silent about their facilitators are given at least one further attempt to enter the country.

More than 45 per cent of illegal immigrants removed from Britain are from Africa, 22 per cent from Asia, 17 per cent from South America and 10 per cent from Eastern Europe.

Visa fear, page 1
Immigrants escape, page 3
Leading article, page 13

CRISPIN RODWELL



Forgoing the festive season, a British soldier patrols Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone. "While there may be talk of peace, we have a job to do," one said

Ulster on alert as ceasefire ends

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

■ The IRA's refusal to extend the 72-hour Christmas truce signals its dissatisfaction with the Downing Street declaration

SECURITY forces in Northern Ireland returned to full alert last night as the IRA's three-day Christmas ceasefire was due to end at midnight.

The IRA showed no sign of moving any closer to the Downing Street declaration over the weekend, raising fears of a resumption of pre-Christmas attacks on members of the security forces.

Martin McGuinness, the leading Sinn Fein member who reflects IRA thinking, yesterday underlined the Republican movement's sceptical reaction to the declaration. In the Dublin *Sunday Press* he said Republicans were worried that the two governments were trying to dupe the IRA into an open-ended ceasefire.

"We will be examining every sentence and comma and trying to read between the lines," he said.

There had been hopes that the IRA would extend its ceasefire beyond the traditional 72 hours but in a terse statement on Thursday night the IRA signalled its dissatisfaction with the declaration by announcing that its active service units would suspend operations for only 72 hours. Mr McGuinness's comments came as Albert Reynolds, the Taoiseach, tried to defuse differences that have arisen between London and Dublin since the declaration on December 15. Within days London was said to have been irritated when Mr Reynolds raised the issue of paramilitary prisoners in the event of talks on the future of Ulster.

Writing in yesterday's Belfast *Sunday Life*, Mr Reynolds said: "We should not let ourselves be sidetracked into the many questions that will have to be solved in the future. If we attempt to resolve them now, they could become a bog which would swallow up the peace process before it begins.

"The Joint Peace Declaration ... did not attempt to provide any predetermined political solution," he wrote. "It cuts the Gordian knot, and goes direct to the heart of the matter, seeking from everyone a clear and unequivocal commitment to peace and democracy as the first step."

As the two governments await the outcome of the IRA's lengthy internal consultation they could take comfort as Loyalist paramilitaries gave their support for the declaration. Gunmen from the Ulster Volunteer Force who are serving sentences for murder said they were "pretty happy" with the declaration.

Billy Giles, who is on a week's home leave from the Maze prison, told *The Sunday Times*: "The guys in jail have looked at this document and the feeling is that there is nothing in there which is worth killing for."

The 60 IRA prisoners on home leave are expected to give their reaction tomorrow. They are one of the Republican movement's key constituencies and are taking part in intense discussions about the declaration with their leaders during their week of home leave.

Peace talks offer no respite to soldiers

By Our Ireland Correspondent

"WE STILL have to walk the streets and fields, regardless of any peace process," the sergeant commanding a British Army patrol said.

While the 18,000 soldiers serving in Northern Ireland have been gripped by John Major's peace initiative, the servicemen and women need no reminding that they have to remain vigilant while the IRA stalls over the Downing Street declaration.

For Sergeant Guy (he did not want to give his surname) and 600 soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, on a six-month tour in Tyrone and Fermanagh, this means they will have to wait until the spring to celebrate Christmas at home. It also means regular and frightening patrols along the 103-mile stretch of the border policed by their battalion.

Sergeant Guy said: "Just after the peace plan was announced we were 300 to 400 metres from the border checking a crossing. It was soaking wet and we felt as if everyone was looking at us. It really brought home to us that while there may be talk of peace we have a job to do."

Sergeant Guy leads a four-strong patrol that has been policing Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone, a small town where two RUC officers were shot dead by the IRA this month.

Lieutenant Mike Cooper, his commanding officer, said all his soldiers were curious but realistic about the peace plan. "It's top of the pops in discussion," he said. "Everyone, from privates to commanding officers, is reading newspapers. But three serious attacks in our area since we arrived in November have focused the mind that nothing has changed."

Seasonal weather road havoc

Continued from page 1

odds of 7-1. He planned to give his winnings away, dividing the bet into individual £1 coins and sending them out with Christmas cards.

Aberdeen was the only area to report a substantial fall of snow on Christmas Day, making for the best skiing conditions of the year on the Cairngorms. Aviemore's hotels were full yesterday as several thousand skiers enjoyed a sunny day and firm snow.

Despite the generally cold conditions with a widespread frost on both weekend nights, many of the usual Christmas-time stunts went ahead as planned, including an annual charity swim in the sea at Blackpool in which 50 people took part and a cricket match on a frost-covered wicket at Frocester in Gloucestershire.

☐ British Rail yesterday defended its decision to shut down virtually its entire network over the Christmas weekend. Only the half-hourly service to Gatwick Airport from Victoria, the Thameslink service across London and the Victoria to Brighton service, were operational.

A BR spokesman said the shutdown had been a regular feature for the past 10 years. He said it reflected the fact that not many BR employees were prepared to work on Christmas Day and, in any case, there was little demand for train services during the holiday period.

BR will run limited services in the early part of this week, with more extensive schedules on Thursday and Friday. A return to the full timetable will not occur until next Tuesday.

European storms, page 7
Forecast, page 16

Visas for Jamaican visitors 'likely'

Continued from page 1

from entering Britain and returned to Jamaica on a Home Office chartered Boeing 767 plane on Christmas Day.

Max Madden, Labour MP for Bradford west, delivered a letter to 10 Downing Street calling for an explanation from the prime minister. He said: "I believe the way in which a number of people from the Caribbean were treated has been a travesty of natural justice". He said the public was owed an explanation why so many were refused entry.

A Home Office spokesman defended the decision to return them to Jamaica on Christmas Day. He said: "Immigration officials had reason to believe they would not comply with terms of temporary admission."

Of the remaining 190 out of 323 passengers detained when the charter flight arrived at Gatwick airport on Tuesday 98 have been given temporary admission to Britain, 64 allowed entry and one person is to be sent back today or tomorrow.

Louise Christian, the solicitor acting for Peter Honegan, aged 29, whose case is to be re-examined, said that he had been treated "abysmally".

A right wing Conservative MP attacked critics of the authorities. Terry Dicks, Conservative MP for Hayes and Harlington, said: "The British Government has a right to send back anybody it wants from this country, especially if they are coming in under false pretences or are a threat to this society. I am sick to death of the bleeding hearts who want every Tom, Dick and Harry to come here.

Leading article, page 13

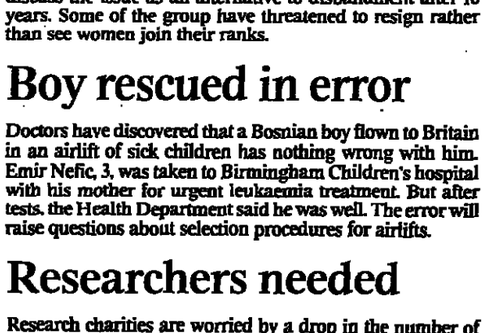
Bargain-hunters seek a place in the queue

By Robin Young

BARGAIN hunters were prowling London's West End from early yesterday afternoon, preparing to camp outside the most tempting windows to secure their pick of the winter sale reductions. Sales at many do-it-yourself and electrical goods stores have already started.

☐ **Sales dates:** sales at the following John Lewis stores are from December 30 to January 8, not from December 29 as given in the Weekend section on Christmas Eve: Bristol (0272 279100), High Wycombe Furnishing & Leisure (0494 462666), Kingston upon Thames (081-547 3000), Milton Keynes (0908 679171), Peterborough (0733 344644) and Welwyn (0707 323456). Also at Bainbridge, Newcastle upon Tyne (091-232 5000), Bonds, Norwich (0603 660021), Caleys, Windsor (0753 863241), Cole Brothers, Sheffield (0742 768511), Heelas, Reading (0734 575955), Jessops, Nottingham (0602 418282), Knight & Lee, Southsea (0705 827511), George Henry Lee, Liverpool (051-709 7070), Robert Sayle, Cambridge (0223 61292), Trewins, Watford (0923 244266).

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FORTE HOTELS



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Flying twice as



Estelle, left, and Elaine Moffat

LIGHT-HEADED Concorde travellers have been seeing double on recent flights in the form of Estelle and Elaine Moffat, who are identical twins.

The women, 31, originally from Blackpool, joined BA in 1984 and flew together on Boeing 747s and short-haul aircraft before joining the Concorde fleet last month.

"When we flew 747s we'd stand side by side doing safety demonstrations and you could see the startled expressions on passengers' faces," Estelle said.

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Two tales of Christmas: seconds in the Conservatory, but nobody asks for more under Waterloo bridge

PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS HARRIS



Some of London's homeless tuck into a free Boxing Day lunch provided by the charity Crisis near Waterloo bridge, while at the Lanesborough hotel at Hyde Park Corner the well-heeled paid more than £30 a head for a meal

Dickensian spirit haunts feasts of rich and poor

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THERE were seats to spare at the makeshift tables set up yesterday by the charity Crisis beside the Bullring, the catacomb beneath Waterloo bridge which serves as a camping site for many of London's homeless.

Mike Stratton, organiser of the mobile shelter, said: "We do have a spare we can set up if there is a rush, but we do not really get crowds. People tend to come in a steady trickle.

"It builds up during the week. We do not go and hunt them out. They will come to us if they want to." Yesterday Crisis served 60 lunches during its three-hour stay at the Bullring. Last year, when the mobile service was started, it counted customers in single figures. This year's menu included turkey stew served with sausages, bacon, sprouts, potatoes and stuffing.

"It is all by courtesy of the Roman Catholic church in Kentish Town, which is our next stopping place," Mr Stratton said. "They gave us the surplus from their Christmas lunch and it has been chilled overnight and reheashed."

Men with blue noses, bleary eyes and woollen bobble hats tucked in appreciatively enough. One wrapped a turkey drum stick from his plate in a piece of plastic salvaged from the street and thrust it deep into an overcoat pocket for later. Another passed a sausage to his neighbour. "I have to be careful what I eat," he explained.

A young woman with the sides of her head shaved was so cold or nervous that she could not hold her plastic fork steady as she ate. Nobody asked for more.

"I deliberately do not have any soup on this run," Mr Stratton said. "Frankly they get fed up with soup and sandwiches, even if that is just about all that some of them can keep down." Mr Stratton's van provides emergency medical attention, hot food and drink.

"We get two or three medical cases a day," he said. "On Saturday there was one so bad from a mixture of alcohol and glue sniffing that he had to be sent straight to hospital. Some of them do get in a pretty poor way. We have packed one more off today."

The Crisis mobile, a converted 40ft truck, supplements the services provided in the charity's three main Christmas shelters in Pages Walk, Bermondsey, in Acton and a small women's shelter at a safe address. It expects to cope with the needs of up to 250 people each day visiting in turn Deptford, Waterloo and Kentish Town.

It was less easy to find a place in the warmth and comfort of the Conservatory of the Lanesborough hotel at Hyde Park Corner. There, the management were not exactly giving food away, but well-heeled customers in couples and family parties clearly judged the Boxing Day brunch at £34.50 a head to be value for money.

As customers filed past a tree dripping with golden pears into a room full of palms and Chinese lanterns, John, the restaurant manager, was a little tense. "We are really a couple of tables overbooked and completely full until at least 2.30," he confided.

When Lord Mexborough arrived with a party of ten, instead of the seven expected, he and his guests were obliged to wait in the drawing room while extra places were arranged. The tables were decorated with sprays of orchids, staff circled attentively, and Confrey Phillips and His Music kept up a smooth accompaniment of soft jazz, including standards by Gershwin, Porter and Berlin.

Unlike Mr Stratton's, the Conservatory menu did include soup: chestnut and celery with croutons. There was also a choice of hickory-smoked salmon, oriental crabmeat, smoked chicken and foie gras, champagne sorbet, a saffron risotto, grilled swordfish, crisp-fried Cajun seafood salad, duckling confit, barbecued lamb rack and traditional roast of the day.

Desserts included *cappuccino brulée*, kirsch and macaroon parfait with warm cranberries, and apple and Christmas pudding strudel.

Though some appetites were modest, at other tables second helpings were shamelessly accepted. "We have really enjoyed it," a lady in a fur coat said as she left.

Scots urged to put Hogmanay revelry on a sober footing

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

SCOTS are being urged to reduce their drinking on Hogmanay and to join a three-day party.

Edinburgh is spending £200,000 in an effort to establish itself as the place to be for new year celebrations. It is hoped that the Hogmanay Festival will become an annual event and attract visitors from all over Britain.

Peter Irvine, director of Unique Productions, organiser of the event, said the idea arose from the European Summit last December which was celebrated with a number of events. "There was some concern that the outdoor activities would not work at that time of year but that proved unfounded," he said.

The Hogmanay Festival, which is expected to attract 50,000 people, hopes to provide an alternative to the traditional drinking binge, although on New Year's Eve there will be a bar open until 3am.

Mr Irvine said: "We organised Hogmanay parties in Glasgow at the beginning and end of 1990, when it was European City of Culture, and we discovered that if you give people a managed quality programme they do not drink themselves into oblivion. People keep on drinking when there is nothing else to do and, while Hogmanay is a traditional festival in Scotland, New Year's Day tends to be a dead day. Nothing is open and there is nothing to do."

The festival will start on Thursday with a torch-lit procession through the city centre culminating in a giant bonfire and firework display.

On Hogmanay there will be a street party until midnight with live music and theatre, including performances by the cast of *Les Miserables* and the rock band Capercaillie. Other Scottish bands will perform outside the National Gallery and there will be a classical concert inside St Giles' Cathedral. There will be a ceilidh and latin dancing in the Assembly Rooms.

Events on New Year's Day will include a triathlon, drive-in cinema, children's theatre and jazz at the City Arts Centre. Most of the events will be free. The festival has the backing of the city's council, Lothian Regional Council, Edinburgh Tourist Board and Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise.

☐ The Scottish Blood Transfusion Service wants 1,000 fit and healthy people to stay sober during the new year celebrations in order to provide blood for hospitals in Strathclyde. If donors have drunk too much alcohol, their blood will not be used.

Flying twice as high



Estelle, left, and Elaine Moffatjoin Concorde

LIGHT-HEADED Concorde travellers have been seeing double on recent flights in the form of Estelle and Elaine Moffat, who are identical twins.

The women, 31, originally from Blackpool, joined BA in 1984 and flew together on Boeing 747s and short-haul aircraft before joining the Concorde fleet last month.

"When we flew 747s we'd stand side by side doing safety demonstrations and you could see the startled expressions on passengers' faces," Estelle said. "Passengers often ask how we got to one end of the aircraft so quickly when they just saw us at the other end."

Estelle said that when she arrived for her Concorde cabin crew interview she was asked: "Haven't we interviewed you before?"

Since joining Concorde, the twins have flown on scheduled flights to New York, Washington and Barbados, on special charters to Lapland and Paris, and on the Children in Need Concorde charity flight that raised £45,000.

Teenagers sexually assault woman, 31

ONE of two youths who sexually assaulted a 31-year-old woman on Christmas Day is thought to have been as young as 13.

The mother of two was attacked as she walked home through a park in the east end of Glasgow after visiting friends, police said.

The youths, the elder about 16 or 17, repeatedly punched and kicked the woman in the face and body and hit her with a metal object. She was sexually molested before being robbed, and was left bleeding on the footpath in Auchinlea Park. The woman was later treated for cuts and bruises at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow.

Police said the elder attacker may have been scratched on the face and hands. The youths were thought to have had a brown mongrel dog with them.

☐ A woman who falsely claimed she had been raped in a car on Christmas Day may be charged with wasting police time. The 21-year-old told officers three men dragged her into the car in the High Street, Stockton-on-Tees, and one raped her on the back seat.

But last night a Cleveland police spokesman said they were satisfied her allegation was false and that "rape did not occur". A file was being prepared for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Immigrants give Group 4 the slip

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

■ An escape by Algerians awaiting deportation puts the security firm's record back under the spotlight

TWO Algerians were on the run last night after escaping from an immigration detention centre in Oxfordshire.

The two scaled a 25ft perimeter fence, jumped to the ground and ran away from the centre, which is run by Group 4. A third man who escaped with them on Christmas Day was detained in a hospital where he had gone for treatment for an ankle injured while jumping from the fence.

The three, aged 26, 27 and 28, clambered up the wire fence around Campsfield Immigration Detention Centre at Kidlington, Oxfordshire, where they were being held awaiting deportation to Algeria. The unit also held the Jamaicans detained in an immigration clampdown on a charter flight from Kingston.

When the men escaped, police with tracker dogs were drafted in to the area around Kidlington after alarms sounded, but the men had disappeared.

The third man was detained at John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford, where he had gone for treatment to a broken ankle. Staff at the hospital alerted police and last night he was back at Campsfield after being collected by Group 4 staff.

The centre at Kidlington has been open for only four weeks and is operated by Group 4, the private security company. The firm was at the centre of controversy earlier this year when there was a disastrous start to its five-year contract for the first privatised courts escort service.

Eight prisoners escaped during the early weeks of running the service in the East Midlands and Humberside, making the company the butt of cartoonists and comedians. In another incident a prisoner died while in the custody of the company. The company has also bid to run Doncaster prison, which is due to open next year, but did not win the contract to operate the inner-London courts escort service. Since then the company's performance has improved and officials say they are happy with the way Group 4 is operating.

Jim Harrower, Group 4 managing director, said the initial escapes had not always been the fault of the company. "We are a company based on reputation. We will bring that reputation back through our performance," he said.

Jamaicans return, page 1

Burglary shock may have killed pensioner

BY ADAM FRESCO

A WOMAN pensioner is believed to have had a heart attack and died after her home was burgled. She was found by neighbours who called to take her for Christmas dinner with her husband, who is in a home.

Detectives, who have not ruled out murder, have appealed for the burglar to come forward. It is thought the intruder forced his way through a rear window into Hilda Redepenning's house in Hull at some time since last Thursday.

Edward Headspiff, whose wife Norma found the body of Mrs Redepenning, 70, a retired food process worker who suffered from asthma and had a heart condition, said: "We were planning to take her to see her husband Bill. She would always be waiting on the doorstep for us but she wasn't there yesterday.

"We went round the back and my wife saw her through the kitchen window. The shock of having a burglar in the house must have been terrible. She was very vulnerable. If the burglar has any conscience he should give himself up."

Det Supt Alan Holmes, of Humberside police, who is leading the investigation, said: "Murder is a consideration that cannot be excluded until we know the exact circumstances of her death."

Hundreds queue for classless gongs

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of voluntary workers nominated for honours will be left waiting in the long queue of hopefuls to join John Major's "classless" awards list, as the first open nomination process for this week's list has been heavily oversubscribed.

Several thousand people responded to the Prime Minister's invitation for nominations, but only 100 additional rewards for voluntary work will be included on the New Year's list, to be published on Friday.

Officials in the Downing Street Honours Secretariat have struggled to deal with the deluge of nominations which followed Mr Major's attempt to open up the honours system. The awards will be the first New Year's honours since a Whitehall review aimed at reducing the number of awards given to civil service "time-servers" and raising the proportion awarded to volunteers.

However, Mr Major's plans to strip away the system's class-bound structure have left the team of six officials struggling to sift through the mounting pile of nominations. They have had to leave some 200 potential recipients in a "pending" tray for future consideration.

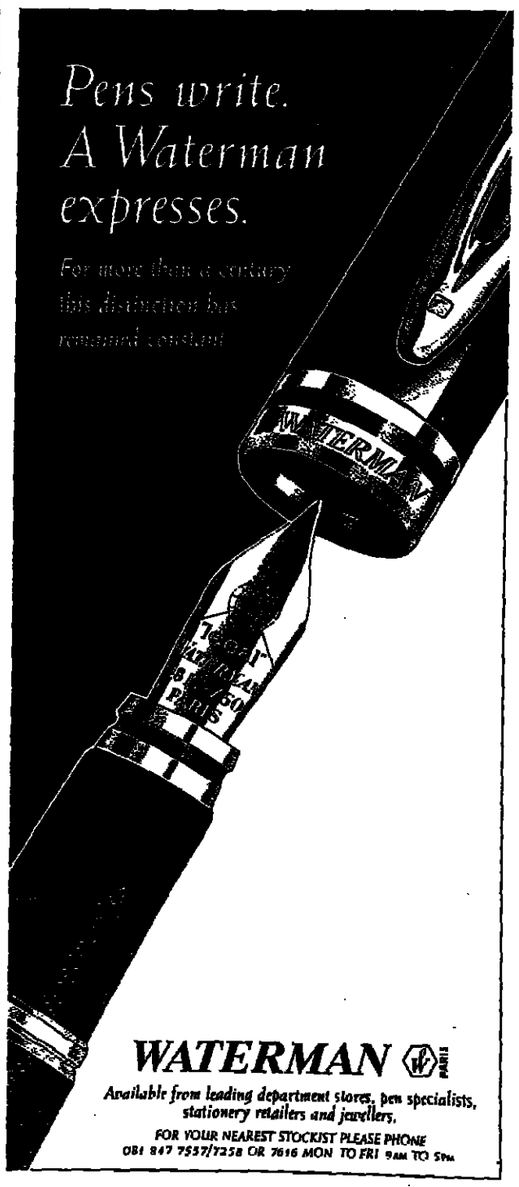
The review will lead to the number of awards given to those working in the voluntary and charity fields increasing gradually over the next six years. More awards will also be given to those in the diplomatic service and those serving overseas, while fewer will be given to civil service and armed forces personnel.

While there is always a large number of awards held over for future honours lists, this year's backlog is understood to be bigger because of the changes to the honours system. There is concern in Whitehall that the goodwill generated by the opening up of the honours system could be damaged if there are long delays between people being nominated and receiving their honours.

Officials have had to spend more time vetting nominations than in former years, when they were made through more formal channels. Within days of Mr Major's announcement of the changes, more than 1,000 requests for nomination forms had been received by Downing Street and some 500 names a week are still pouring in.

Although nominations such as that of the Rev Ian Paisley by Mother Teresa have been easy to cast aside as spoofs, others have required lengthy checking, sometimes through complex channels. The officials have also had to spend more time ensuring a regional, ethnic and gender balance to the list.

The abolition, in the Queen's birthday honours list in June, of the "working class" honour of the British Empire Medal in favour of an all-encompassing Medal of the British Empire marked an early stage of Mr Major's attempt to remove social barriers in the honours system.



Old school students prove you're never too old to get wiser

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MORE old people are keeping active in retirement by returning to the classroom, a survey disclosed yesterday. The number of over-65s sitting GCSE examinations with the largest of the English boards has risen by one third over the past four years, according to an analysis of entries by the Southern Examining Group.

The finding follows a call by the independent National Commission on Education last month for the Government to increase learning opportunities for older people. It said that a national strategy was required because grandparents were important role models for children and could play a key role in raising education standards across communities.



Crimmin: "stopped my brain atrophying"

Research shows that old people are by far the least educated section of the population. While only 18 per cent of people in their twenties have no qualifications, more than 60 per cent of those aged 50 to 69 have none. Two-thirds of the over-50s left school by 15.

George Turnbull, spokesman for the Southern Examining Group, said that many of the 406 candidates aged over 65 who sat GCSEs with the group this summer were women, with English and mathematics the most popular subjects: "Older people are anxious to keep up with their grandchildren and make up for opportunities which they did not have at school. "They just do not want to hang around until they die."

Edward Crimmin, 76, from Southport, who gained a grade C in GCSE history this summer, said education had changed his life. "Studying is almost addictive and it has certainly stopped my brain atrophying."

Mr Crimmin began classes at Southport College to combat depression after his wife died four years ago. "I decided I had to do something about my cooking and whole attitude to life after I tried to cook myself some frozen fish for dinner. I put it in the oven but used the microwave times on the packet by mistake."

Mr Crimmin, a retired instrument engineer, has since taken GCSEs in mathematics and English, a word-processing course and seven cookery courses — including two on microwave cooking.

Living-room dramas bring in-house entertainment to life

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Switch off the CD player and throw a rug over the television. Intimate theatre — or dial-a-play — is the latest in home entertainment for the jaded this Christmas (Alison Roberts writes). Once they would have been called Mummers, bringing drama into private homes, but today the In House theatre company, an offshoot of Re:creation, describes its art as "a theatrical event: rung up, requested and delivered on demand". The set fits in the back of a Fiat Panda and, once coffee table and armchairs are cleared away, an 8ft by 10ft space becomes centre stage. Stephanie Young, a playwright and co-founder of Re:creation, says: "I don't mean to idealise Auntie Gertrude murdering Mozart arias at the piano, but there was an immediate feel to that and it's missed now. Watching actors a few feet away is a very new experience for many people." In House's Christmas play is a ghost story, *Returning Spirits*, adapted loosely from Dickens and complete with Edwardian costume and violin accompaniment. Ned Cox, the director, hopes to provide a full repertoire of plays: "Home theatre is definitely the thing of the future."

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Bold souls search high and low for a hairy Christmas

BY RONALD FAUX

ADVENTURE in far-flung destinations has attracted more people this Christmas than ever. Cheap air travel and a growth in leisure sport brought a flood of enquiries to travel agents providing holidays for mountaineers, paragliding and hang-gliding enthusiasts and scuba divers.

At Karakoram Experience in Keswick, Cumbria, Tim Greening, its director, packed several dozen Christmas puddings and bottles of whisky into glass-fibre barrels for the company's clients. They were carried by Sherpa porters into the Himalayan mountains for a group exploring the remote region around Paldor (20,000 ft) in Nepal. "Because air travel has become so much easier, people tend to use any time off to go further afield to more exotic destinations," he said.

Another group of rock-climbing enthusiasts from Cumbria was setting out for Thailand armed with cordless drills, sacks of bolts and quick-setting resin to tackle the holdless cliffs at Phranang and Kohphiphi, which are so spectacular they were chosen as a backdrop to the climax of a James Bond film.

The mountaineering and trekking specialists Himalayan Kingdoms, noted for leading clients to the summit of Everest, have dispatched a group to Bhutan, where they will become the first British travellers to attend a Bhuddist festival at the Tongsa Tsechu, a remote fortress monastery.

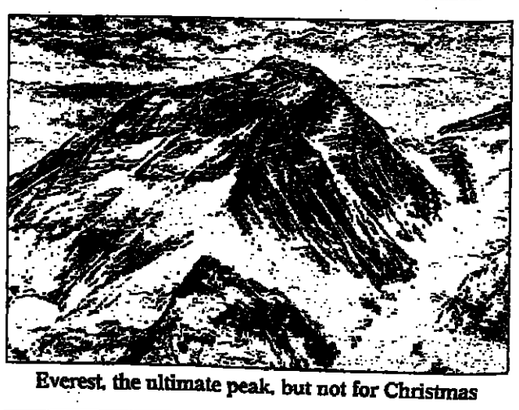
The summit of Everest is unlikely to have any Christmas visitors but the highest peak in South America, Aconcagua (22,830ft), is being attempted by ten mountaineers, who have paid £2,950 to spend the Christmas week on the barren peak.

Steve Berry, director of Himalayan Kingdoms, said: "I think more people these days want to escape the weather in the UK for a spell of warm sunshine and smiling faces."

The warmth, sea breezes and powerful thermals of Lanzarote, one of the Canary islands, have attracted a large group of hang-gliding and paragliding enthusiasts. "Winter weather in Britain does not often favour flying. Hanging on a wind with a minus-degrees chill factor is not fun, but in Lanzarote the air is warm and very exciting to fly in and the beach is never far away," said one pilot as he packed his paraglider.

BS-AC (the British Sub-Aqua Club) reports a sharp upturn of interest in sport diving, reflected in the club's 55,000 members, nearly a quarter of them women. Over the Christmas week hundreds of enthusiasts will be braving the chill waters around the UK, but a significant number will be seeking warmer climes.

The ultimate in diving experiences, which has attracted a number of British divers over the holiday period, lies off the small island of Sipidan on the east coast of Borneo. "It is God's gift to divers. You live in grass huts on a hot, white beach and swim out into 30ft of water which suddenly drops 600ft down a wall rich in colour and alive with every kind of fish," one recalled.



Everest, the ultimate peak, but not for Christmas

German cancellations save Britons a packet

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

UP TO 300,000 Britons will this summer fly on cut-price package tours to the Mediterranean which have been cancelled by recession-hit German holidaymakers.

German tour operators had booked millions of rooms for next year at least a year ago but then faced numerous cancellations as the country slid into recession.

Thomson, which has sold more than one million summer holidays for 1994 and has another million left, spotted the opportunity presented by the cancelling Germans and other European holidaymakers. Salesmen were sent to the traditional German-dominated resorts to negotiate low prices. The company launches a new brochure tomorrow with an extra 250,000 holidays which had been earmarked for European and mainly German consumption.

Thomson also told Britannia, its airline subsidiary, that it would require every seat it could provide. Britannia usually sells seats on almost every flight to smaller competitive tour operators who do not have their own airline.

The average price of the additional holidays will be at least £30 cheaper than they were in September. The high street price war among leading travel agency chains will reduce that by a further 11 per cent.

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'We are there to prevent them from being killed. Our first duty is to run away — not to fight'

Series throws light on shadowy world of protection squad

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

POLICE officers guarding Salman Rushdie are all volunteers because of the dangers they could face from a suicide attack on the author.

As the fifth anniversary approaches of the fatwa issued by the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran, the author remains a top priority in the protection squad run by Scotland Yard's special branch. Soon to be televised in a fly-on-the-wall ITV series, *Scotland Yard*, the squad has never lost a charge in 110 years and last fired a shot on duty 11 years ago.

All the VIPs protected by the "prot squad", the branch's A squad, can bring difficulties but Detective Chief Superintendent Eileen Eggington, head of the squad, said: "I think the officers protecting Salman Rushdie are under the greatest stress because the threat to them is almost as much as to him. An assassin would not be concerned about getting killed, and would take on the minders as well."

When Miss Eggington, head of the squad, started as one of the first women recruited for security duties there were few threats and terrorism was relatively unknown. After a five-day firearms course more than 20 years ago she protected the Queens of Greece and Jordan.

She said: "You picked it up and got a second sense. It was very low key. Now we are in it for real. There are times when news comes through of a heightened threat. The officers do worry about it. They would be willing to put their lives on the line, but it makes them make even more sure it does not happen."

Yet the Yard still manages to operate at a low-key level compared with protection squads in many other countries. There are probably more security men and women in President Clinton's retinue than the whole of the Yard's squad.

The Home Office and the Yard operate a system of six levels of security depending on a threat assessment provided by MI5. Only levels one and two routinely get protection officers who cover the VIPs' daily movements. Their homes are protected by local police and technology. The Prime Minister, top ministers and visiting VIPs get full protection as a matter of course.

The squad has a pool of more than 50 vehicles, including an armour-plated Rolls-Royce, which come with first-aid kits and body armour. "You can't put a Very Very Important Person in a Ford Granada," one senior officer said. The squad's armoury includes Glock automatic handguns, and Heckler and Koch carbines (a small number were introduced after the Americans wanted to come over with President Reagan complete with their own submachineguns).

The ideal recruits are in their 20s, although they can join up to their mid-40s, and must have served in special branch for at least two years. He or she has to be physically fit, be an above-average marksman and have the right temperament.

"It's very important to be able to get on with the principal, his private office staff, his wife and family," said Miss Eggington. "They need plenty of initiative because there are no dot and comma rules on how to do the job, especially when protecting working people who don't always plan their lives. A lot of movements will be with very little notice."

The ideal qualities also include tact. "One of the worst things you can remind a VIP is 'today you are going to die'. Everything must be appropriate. The VIP has to trust you from the moment they arrive," said Detective Sergeant Terry Whidett, the special branch trainer. "If I say to you 'Minister. Run. Follow me' you must be prepared to do it and we will discuss it later.

"If you are special branch and you have the option, you run away and please take your principal with you. We are there to prevent them being killed. The first duty is to run away. The last thing we want is to have a fight. Protect the principal before a fire fight. If there is the slightest hint all is not well the first instruction is to go away."

Discretion is not only the better part of valour, it is also a prerequisite of these officers' lives. "I have been doing this for 15 years and I have seen and heard nothing," Mr Whidett said.

Thatcher's security, page 1

MARTIN BEDDALL



Scotland Yard officers in training for the A squad, a handpicked team of men and women who put their lives on the line every working day

Bodyguards trained at school of hard knocks

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

AT a whistle blast two officers crouched in front of their targets and sent a volley of bullets thudding into the cartoon bodies on the shooting range. "The crouch allows them to return fire and still cover the VIP," said Inspector Laurie Jayne, a trainer.

Halfway through a three-week induction course, candidates for the 150-strong protection squad run by Scotland Yard's special branch were being put through their paces on its ranges at Lippetts Hill in Essex. Four of the trainees climbed into a battered white Rover. This time as the whistle blew they flew into position to repel an ambush. Two fired from the windows as the second pair scrambled outside.

"There are no VIPs to think about here," the instructor said. "It's your survival as a team of four. Everybody will be shooting at this." The trainer banged the car. "The cover is not as good as you think. If a car is attacked get out by the car for three seconds or so and then go. Don't stay in the killing ground."

During the training course, introduced in 1982 and derived from a longer SAS bodyguard curriculum, the candidates begin with exercises in walking with their charges and covering their movements and then move on to more crucial areas of covering risk areas. Arrivals and departures are regarded as vulnerable times. The trainees learn to reconnoitre venues, liaise with local forces and prepare a plan of action for the aftermath of an attack, including the identification of safe houses should they be needed.

Drivers are taken from among the Yard's top drivers and then sent on the bodyguard course to learn special anti-hijack techniques. During the three weeks, the trainees will fire 1,000 rounds in almost daily practice and stand under the path of a 7.62 bullet to experience the distinct sound of a rifle being fired at them. By the time they graduate they must be able to turn on a target seven metres away, identify it as a threat, draw and put two shots into it within three seconds. The pass mark for shooting must be 70% or more. Overall only about one or two officers fail each course.

At Lippetts Hill, the hopefuls struggled with one of the 60 or 70 attacks mounted during the course. A rubber grenade bounced by the VIP's car. A quick-witted bodyguard kicked it aside as the team scuttled for safety. In the worst scenario they experience explosions, a dead driver and a torrent of fire from gunmen.

Everything is recorded by video camera and replayed with withering commentary. "Keep your hands off the VIP. You can't push him around. Don't walk backwards. You'll fall over." the trainer told the class.

Mr Jayne said: "They are to a certain extent expendable. They have to expect that as part of the job. Some gulp a bit but if they have any sense they have thought about it."

Thatcher 'hates' need for total security



Lady Thatcher on the move with protection officers

Continued from page 1

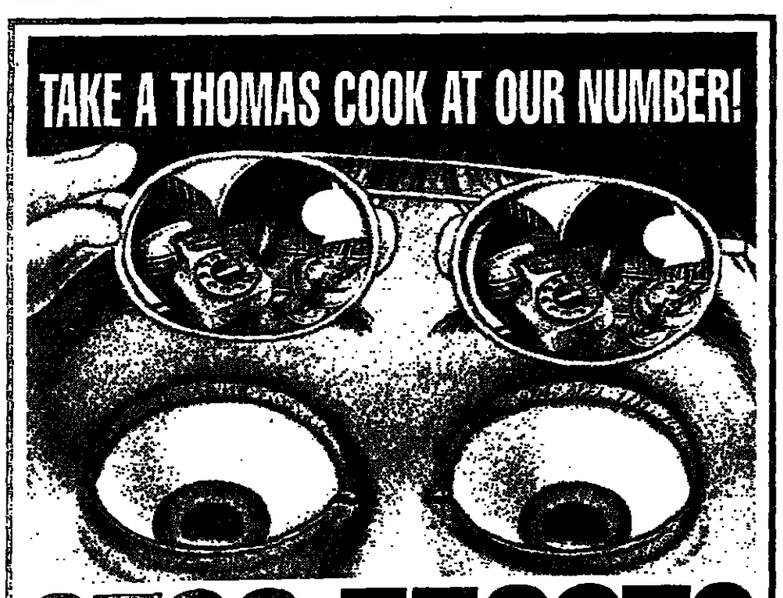
Rushdie, but not the Royal family. Miss Eggington refuses to contemplate a lower profile and safer existence, however. "You accept certain risks when you do this job and you feel better living a full life."

Makers of the programme for Thames Television were also allowed to film for the first time policy meetings of Scotland Yard's most senior officers, including the Commissioner, Paul Condon. They were given unprecedented access to officers the Specialised Fire Office in SO19, who are called in to assist in operations where weapons are likely to be used, such as sieges or robberies.

Scotland Yard is the latest in a series of television programmes aimed at bringing the inside workings of the police to the public. Robert Fleming, who produced the series, said: "Our agreement with the Met was that we would give an objective account of anything we captured on film. The police only had the right of veto over things which might affect a police operation."

Mr Fleming has produced two previous ITV police documentary series, *Flying Squad* and *Murder Squad*. He said: "A lot of officers think there is a mystique surrounding Special Branch because of the intelligence work they do. They want to destroy the myth that they are all like Big Brother and show that they are ordinary people."

Scotland Yard begins on January 6 at 9.30pm on ITV. The episode on Lady Thatcher's protection will be broadcast on February 3.



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Council suspends staff after mental test

By Adam Fresco

NINETEEN council staff have been suspended for failing a psychological test in which they had to answer true or false to statements such as "I have sensitive skin" and "I like *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll".

They were suspended shortly before Christmas from Southwark borough council in south London and have been told to return on January 4 to discuss their future. They were escorted off the premises as soon as the test results were known without being told why. When one asked why he was being disciplined, he was told: "We don't want you to do any damage."

The workers, who earn an average of £18,000 in the finance department, had to answer true or false to 462 statements, which also included "I think I would like the work of a dress designer" and "Women should not be allowed to drink alone in pubs".

The Labour-run council is reorganising its finance department, which has 120 staff, in preparation for a £10 million privatisation programme early in the new year and has employed consultants to find ways of reducing staff numbers.

Chris Humphreys, London regional secretary of the public-service union Unison, said: "These sorts of question are wholly irrelevant to the council's work. This pantomime would be funny if the livelihoods of 19 people were not at risk." The council was not available for comment.



Orthodoxy proves a poor soil for the shoots of liberalism

Emerging countries with Orthodox faiths are finding it difficult to accommodate liberal democracy, ***Norman Stone*** *writes*

The Times Essay

IN the 1880s, according to reputable authorities, religion was dead. Under the effects of Darwin and much else, churches started to lose faithful: Protestants in the lead, but others later on. However, God is not mocked, and the sequel has been interesting.

The politics of Calvinist, Catholic or Anglican countries continued to be rather different, even though the original faiths had declined in intensity. By and large, Protestant countries took to classical liberalism — and eventually universal-suffrage democracy — better than others. Catholic ones differed (but there are endless qualifications, here and elsewhere in this theme). In Germany, the Nazi voters tended to be Protestant, the leaders Catholic in origin, but in Vichy France, the Huguenot mayors were more likely to give out false papers. However you account for it, old religious differences lived on into the politics of later, secularised generations.

There is one interesting and topical theme in all of this today: it is Orthodoxy. Everywhere in the formerly (or partly) Orthodox world, the accommodation to liberal democracy is proving to be rather hard work. National communism seems to be the order of the day. There is Serbia, under Milosevic, who has just had another electoral victory although his country is near ruin. There is Romania, where Iliescu slipped into Ceausescu's shoes. There is Ukraine, under Kravchuk, the one-time ideology chief turned nationalist. And now there is Zhirinovsky in Russia. Bulgaria seems to be doing well enough, but in general these countries are not producing flourishing democracies.

The contrast with Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia (at least in this writer's opinion) and the Czechs (perhaps not the Slovaks) is plain: the once-Orthodox countries are making a far heavier job of parliamentary institutions than the Catholic countries.

What can be said about such questions? Here you run into prodigious difficulties. First, many of the people involved on the ground will dismiss the question out of hand. The priests, for most of the time, have nothing to say about politics, and the politicians are not in anything beyond superficialities Orthodox.

Then again, what is the political and social side of Orthodoxy? At least with Western Christianity there is a vast literature dealing with religious attitudes to the things of this world. The Polish historian, Bronislaw Geremek, made a serious attempt at the problem: a history of poverty and charity in the Middle Ages in which he asks why a religion that was supposed to be about respecting the poor lost, for so long, to the political and anti-clerical Left.

But, with Orthodoxy, there is not such a literature; rather, there is the music and there is Dostoevsky answering questions in fiction. The nearest that we have to social or political comment would be Nikolai Berdyaev or Vladimir Solovyev and the Orthodox revivalists associated, in the last years of tsarist Russia, with a famous collection of essays, *Vekhi* (Landmarks).

But most of the essays in that book are incantatory, leaning towards spiritualism, and seldom offer any contribution towards day-to-day reality. They were written in response to the failure of the 1905 revolution, and the repudiation, by much of the Russian intelligentsia, of their Orthodox tradition. But a political programme, they are not. There is even an argument to the effect that the mechanisms of Orthodoxy, its contempt for the material world, led straight into communism.

Of course no Church can be truly anything-goes liberal. But there are degrees of tolerance for others. These include degrees of respect for the things of this world, and differing attitudes towards money or rights. These attitudes translate into political groupings, which may not even recognise their own religious ancestry.

On the whole, Protestants said "Me", and Catholics said "Us"; attitudes towards the family, towards banks and businessmen, towards the black economy, follow. Liberalism, by and large, was Protestant in origin (again, I accept severe qualifications where necessary). But the secular thought of Orthodoxy is far less developed. Almost, its ways follow its liturgy: the priests conduct much of the service behind an iconostasis, interrupted by irruptions into the congregation. There are few rules, but you are not allowed to fold your hands behind your back because you might be concealing something.

There was never the same secular organisation as in the West. This showed, in tsarist Russia, most importantly where the schools were concerned. In the Calvinist world, the church tends to be a grim, bald box, and there is smaller, grim and bald box next to it marked "school", where literacy is practised.

Protestant countries produced more than their fair share of engineers and bankers. But schooling was far less developed in old Russia, as was parish organisation in general. There were exceptions, but they depended to a large extent upon heretics — the Old Believers.

Orthodoxy did not much bother with the minor virtues — prudence, punctuality, thrift, sobriety — at which Calvinists and some Catholic orders were good. The Dostoevsky of Karamazov regarded these minor virtues as somehow contradictory of bigger ones, leading the faithful down a foolish path, away from religion.

Orthodoxy had prodigious strengths: its architecture, since Byzantium, distinguished in a style not shared by the secular side.

But in the end, Orthodoxy was weakened, in its capacity to adapt, by involvement with the state. Peter the Great in Russia weakened it as an independent body, and, to the end of the tsarist empire, it did not act as churches have sometimes done in the West — representing a civil society, independent of the state, or even as a counter to it.

Under communism, it was a point of warmth in a cold world, and it had its heroes. But its record of resistance was much less impressive than that of the Catholic church, and in Romania or Russia many of its clergymen were in league with the secret police.

Of course there are clergymen today who learn from the past of Orthodoxy, and may even turn it in the direction of the civil society from which Peter the Great divorced in three centuries ago. But will the once-Orthodox countries turn easily towards liberalism and democratic institutions? The past is not encouraging.

☐ *Norman Stone is professor of modern history at Oxford University.*

Queen attends Sandringham carol service

MARTIN KEENE



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and the Queen are driven to church while the rest of their family walk

Royals gather for family Christmas as poll finds 73% against Civil List

By Dominic Kennedy

■ Some who gathered outside the church of St Mary Magdalene blamed the absence of the Princess of Wales for the low turnout

THE Royal Family attended a carol service at the church of St Mary Magdalene in Sandringham, Norfolk, yesterday. A crowd of 450 watched as most of the family walked a quarter of a mile from Sandringham House. Only the Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother were driven to the church.

The Prince of Wales was accompanied by his sons, Prince William and Prince Harry. The Princess of Wales left Sandringham on Christmas Day after attending church watched by a crowd of 1,000. Her absence was blamed by onlookers for yesterday's low public turnout.

The Prince of Wales talked and joked with members of the public, with his sons by his side. He noticed that Colin Edwards, the Royal enthusiast, was minus his usual red, white and blue millinery. "You haven't got your patriotic hat on today," he remarked.

Those who walked to church in the cold, crisp air included the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of York, Prince Edward, the Princess Royal, Commander Tim Laurence, Peter Phillips, Zara Phillips and Viscount and Viscountess Linley. Of the walkers, only Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones eschewed wearing a coat: she chose a black suit instead.

The only absentee, among those staying at Sandringham House for the traditional Royal Family Christmas, was Princess Margaret.

The Queen was handed bunches of roses, chrysanthemums and carnations, which her grandchildren Prince William, Prince Harry and Miss Phillips relayed to the boot of her Daimler. Bernard Cole of Stowmarket, Suffolk, who was among the crowd, said: "There aren't so many people because Diana isn't here. A lot of people come just to see her."

The Duchess of York and her children, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie, were staying at Wood Farm House, in the grounds of the Queen's estate. They are expected to be invited to lunch with the Queen today before leaving tomorrow.

The Duke of Edinburgh will begin a five-hour pheasant shoot today, and the Queen will escort female members of the family on a horse-riding expedition.

According to an opinion poll published in *The Observer* yesterday, most people believe the Royal Family should cease receiving any financial support from the Exchequer.

The Observer/ICM poll found a total of 73 per cent of those surveyed wanted to end the £7.9 million a year Civil List and associated payments of nearly £1 million to the Duke of Edinburgh and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

However, most people favour retaining the monarchy. Two-thirds prefer a hereditary Queen or King as head of state; 20 per cent wanted an elected president with 10 per cent supporting the Prime Minister in the role.

The monarchy is trusted by 32 per cent, compared with the Church (54 per cent), the police (44 per cent) and the present Government (11 per cent). Support for the succession to the throne by the Prince of Wales has slumped to 56 per cent from 67 per cent in six months. A large majority, 77 per cent, said the monarchy had been damaged by recent controversy. The press was blamed by 64 per cent for the Royal Family's problems.

The Queen's speech and sermons, page 14

NEWS IN BRIEF

Drunken driver kills relative

A motorist who killed a relative when he crashed into a parked car on Christmas Eve gave a positive breath-test, police said.

The dead man, aged 66, of Moston, Manchester, was spending the holiday with relatives in the West Country. He was in the front seat of the car and died at the scene of the accident in Glastonbury, Somerset.

The driver was taken to hospital with a minor head injury. A police spokesman said: "He was a close relative of the dead man and is very upset. He gave a positive breath-test to officers at the hospital." The man is likely to be charged later.

River victim

A man is thought to have drowned as he rowed across the Thames to collect mail. The wife of Ray Legg, 72, spotted that the dinghy was empty after he left their houseboat at Henley, Oxfordshire.

Baby injured

A 48-year-old man will appear in court at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, today charged with the attempted murder of his 14-month-old son on Christmas Eve. The baby suffered serious head injuries.

Turkey reprieve

The RSPCA is to find a home for a turkey that was captured by a dog warden after a last-minute attempt to escape the Christmas table at Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Hoax charge

Kimon Gasparatos, 35, of Athens, is to appear before magistrates today after a bomb hoax on an aircraft that flew into Gatwick on Christmas Eve.

Pier plunge

Peter Morris, 33, of Llandudno, Gwynedd, died when he fell 30ft onto rocks through a section of the resort's pier that was being repaired.

PC dies on duty

PC Richard Ellerker, 42, collapsed and died while on the night shift at a police station in York. He was married with four children.

Stuffed birds

Animal-lovers have been banned from feeding ducks on a pond at Copner, Hampshire, because they have become overweight.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings premium bonds weekly draw are: £100,000, number 23SF 423002, holder from Northampton (value of holding £6,070); £50,000, 11HK 218962, Buckinghamshire (£6,150); £25,000, 23CW 901612, Kent (£19,997).

The only compromise we've made



◀ G590SC Dishwasher
WAS £975 · NOW £875
SAVE £100

K1347S Refrigerator ▶
WAS £399 · NOW £350
SAVE £49

W715 Washing Machine
WAS £995 · NOW £895
◀ SAVE £100

T454 Tumble Dryer ▶
WAS £625 · NOW £575
SAVE £50

◀ S275i Vacuum Cleaner
WAS £199 · NOW £179
SAVE £20

Never compromising means buying the best. When buying washing machines, tumble dryers, dishwashers, fridges, freezers, vacuum cleaners or built-in appliances, that means Miele. Now for a limited period, the only compromise we've made is on the price. Over the next few weeks, you can save up to £100 on selected Miele products.

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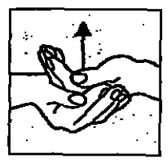
So, whilst we've compromised on the price, you won't have to compromise on the product.

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Anything else is a compromise

Lost for words in the battle to beat a secret disability

By Ruth Gledhill



A PERSON who lacks the ability to speak is too often regarded as stupid because their disability is "secret" and invisible, according to a young adult who has suffered a language impairment all his life.

But with speech therapy and other help, Patrick Hewes has been transformed from "one of the helped into one of the helpers", his father said last night.

Mr Hewes, 26, the youngest of four children, has struggled for most of his life to overcome his difficulty in understanding language and the concepts that underpin the use of speech. He is now able to hold down a full-time job as a hospital porter, and through the charity Afasic he helps other youngsters who suffer a similar disability.

The Times is appealing for donations to Afasic, a charity for overcoming speech and language impairments. More than 500,000 children and young people are thought to suffer such disorders, and often no other intellectual or physical disabilites are involved. In Patrick's case, his two elder brothers were a television producer and an architect, and his sister a doctor.

Mr Hewes' father, the Rev John Hewes, rector of Lydd in Kent, said the family had had to put up "an awful fight" to get the proper therapy. Patrick, who did not receive special tuition until he was 13, describes himself as "aphasic", meaning he has lacked the ability to understand or find the right words from birth.

In his written life story, he says his disability is similar to dyslexia, which causes spelling and reading difficulties. Understanding is limited, and finding the right words "is a complete nightmare".

He says: "Aphasia is still not very well known about. No one knows exactly what causes someone to have it or exactly what it is. What is known is that the speech is 'disabled' because the part of the brain which controls speech is damaged."

He says making friends is particularly hard, and leaving home and school can be "a devastatingly lonely business". But despite his disability, he achieved five CSEs at school, has barely been unemployed since then and spent four months touring Australia before starting work at the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, London.

"The handicap itself is a 'secret' handicap, it is not immediately obvious that anything is wrong, and the aphasic person is regarded as stupid," he said.

I would like to help children and young people who have speech and language impairments:

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE .....

I wish to make a donation of:

☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £30 ☐ £15 ☐ other £ .....

I enclose my cheque made payable to AFASIC

Value £ ..... Cheque number .....

(Please write your name and address on the back of the cheque)

Or, please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Amex card number

Expiry date ...../.....

Signature .....

☐ Please send me information on how to make an annual donation by Deed of Covenant

☐ Please send me information on making a Will

Please complete and return this coupon to:
AFASIC, 347 Central Markets, Smithfield, London EC1A 9NH
Tel. 071-236 3632



KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Short shrift

TOP players occasionally feel the urge to experiment with offbeat systems. Today's games show how dangerous it can be to try provocative methods as Black against strong opposition. In this game the climax of the attack was White's rook sacrifice on move 21. If Black accepts with 21 ... Bxa6 then 22 Qe4 leads to a decisive onslaught.

White: Vladimir Akopian
Black: Simen Agdestein
Groningen, December 1993

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	b5
5	Bb3	Na5
6	0-0	d6
7	d4	Nxb3
8	axb3	f6
9	Nc3	Bb7
10	Qe2	g6
11	dxe5	bxe5
12	Ng5	Nf8
13	f4	Qe7
14	bxe5	dxe5
15	Nd5	Nxd5
16	exd5	Bxd5
17	Ne4	Bg7
18	Bh6	0-0-0
19	Bxg7	Qxg7
20	Rxa6	Bb7
21	Nc5	Rd5
22	Qg4+	Kb8
23	Nxb7	Kxb7
24	Ra1	Rhd8
25	Qe4	Qf8
26	Ra7+	Kb8
27	Ra8+	Kb7
28	Qxd5+	Black resigns

Azmaiparashvili is one of Kasparov's seconds but the world champion would surely have been horrified to observe him hunting down a wing pawn with his queen at the expense of development.

White: Eric Lobron
Black: Zurab Azmaiparashvili
Groingen, December 1993

Modern Defence

1	d4	d6
2	e4	g6
3	Nc3	Bg7
4	f4	Nc6
5	Bb5	a6
6	Bxc6+	bxc6
7	Nf3	Bg4
8	0-0	Qb8
9	h3	Bxf3
10	Rxf3	Qb6
11	Be3	Qxb2
12	Bf2	Qb7
13	f5	c5
14	Rb1	Qc6
15	Nd5	Nf8
16	c4	Kf8
17	e5	Nxd5
18	cxd5	Cxd5
19	f6	Bh6
20	Rfb3	Rd8
21	Rb8	dxe5
22	Qf3	Black resigns

Diagram after White's 21st move

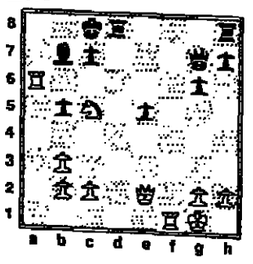
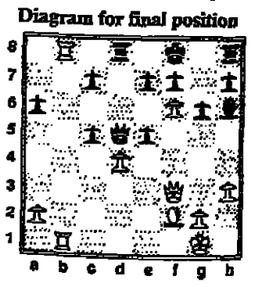


Diagram for final position



Sarajevo with We for stricke

Belgrade air end poll dead

Serbs conde Times repo

Trevisan: targeted

Trevisan, correspond Times, has n non grata Republic of the end of year the Fe of Informati tered her ac with this s stay in our

Last nigh said: "I hav try and f whether I' back. I hav Yugoslavia and there and downs been attack

"I feel ve honourable nalists who their jobs."

هكذا من الأصل

Artillery attack cuts power and water to joyless residents of Bosnian capital

Sarajevo unhappy with West's search for stricken children

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

ARTILLERY shells delivered an unwanted Christmas present over the weekend, cutting Sarajevo's two power lines, telephones and sporadic water supplies.

The city's last remaining main power line, one of more than a dozen that served the city in long-lost prewar days, was knocked out on Christmas Eve by a shell. The line had provided enough electricity for each district to receive a precious few hours every 72 three days — enough to provide water and heating on a rotating basis.

Among other consequences, the loss of the line will force residents to spend perilous hours exposed to shells, snipers and cold, waiting in water queues or running errands otherwise done by telephone. Even when the phones are not inoperative, they work only within the city. Lines to the outside world were severed in July 1992.

Christmas Eve was full of angst in Sarajevo. Shells rained down, sniper bullets whistled past sending residents hurriedly scurrying for cover. Before leaving my hotel in the morning, there was little question of what kind of day it was going to be. The sniper had been covering the exits of the hotel for the preceding few days and had woken me up before my alarm clock. Then I noticed the heavy shelling. Christmas Eve was no different from the preceding three days. It was a bad day to search the hospitals for wounded children awaiting evacuation. The doctors were even more short-tempered than usual and the halls were clogged with dead and dying.

Periodically, since August, teams of doctors and packs of journalists comb the city, searching for children in need of medical evacuation. Great effort is expended with great urgency and tremendous media attention.

The irony that less care is directed towards preventing children, such as five-year-old Irma Hadzimuratovic — the girl now in Britain, whose deathbed throes sparked the rush of children's medical evacuations — from being shot or shelled in the first place, is lost on no one in Sarajevo, particularly the doctors. They grit their teeth and smile, welcoming the half-measure do-gooders because a few lives and limbs will be saved, but their anger is not that well hidden.

"Life in Sarajevo is not one child in front of a TV camera, it is the city he belongs to," Dr Salahudin Dizdarevic, the chief of child surgery at Sarajevo's main Kosevo Hospital, said.

"Look at this," he said, holding up a copy of the morning's *Oslobodjenje*, the city's daily newspaper. A banner headline proclaimed the previous day's score card: 12 killed, 81 wounded. He carefully points out that 18 of the 93 total were children.

All the attention given to the children gives some Sarajevans the impression that people in the West do not mind the slaughtering of civilians, as long as the children are physically unharmed. Many foreigners have the same impression. "I will give you a very beautiful girl to write about: she lives in what was once a very beautiful suburb," he said with a touch of mockery. Dr Dizdarevic has seen too many maimed and suffering children to be sentimental.



Sarajevans sprinting across a main road as Serb snipers ignore the Christmas truce and open fire from positions in the hills overlooking the Bosnian capital

Storms and floods ravage Europe

BY EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THREE Spaniards yesterday became the latest victims of the weather battering northwest Europe, killed when their house collapsed in storms.

Three days of heavy rain and snow caused a landslide in the Asturias region in northern Spain, which brought the house down. The storms also blocked roads and mountain passes, and about 80 skiers in the Pyrenees were stranded by an avalanche.

In Barcelona, firemen answered 200 emergency calls last night as gales brought down trees, power lines and hoardings. Similar conditions kept emergency services busy in Valencia and Alicante.

In Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium, thousands of people who had to flee water-soaked homes at Christmas began cleaning up after the worst flooding in decades.

Rivers began to recede in the heaviest-hit areas of southeast Netherlands and low-lying parts of Germany and Belgium where at least seven people died in the run-up to Christmas. Freezing conditions made roads treacherous over the weekend. Dutch and Belgian police reported 42 accidents, including one near the Dutch city of Breda in which three people died.

No official damage estimates have been given, but a spokesman for the Dutch Internal Affairs Ministry said the bill in The Netherlands could exceed £35 million.

Emergency workers said that the worst of the flooding was over and people were starting to return home. Water levels in the southeast Dutch region of Limburg were falling slowly, and the threat of floods from the Rhine surging northward along the river Ijssel in the northeast was under control.

In Germany, people were able to start cleaning up as flooding from the Rhine retreated rapidly and streets in the old part of Cologne, hip-deep in water just days ago, became passable.

Belgian officials said water levels were dropping throughout the country, but they said that at least a week without more rain or snow was needed before water levels could get back to normal.

French authorities closed a section of motorway beside the Seine in central Paris after a slow but steady rise in the river, and inhabitants in the northeastern town of Soissons were told to boil tapwater before drinking it.

The Dutch government has declared the floods a national disaster and charities launched a joint appeal to raise cash for the victims, who face severe hardship as insurance cover for flooding is almost impossible to get in the Dutch lowlands.

A number of the 12,000 people evacuated in Limburg were able to go home after authorities judged that the worst danger had passed.

British floods, page 1
Picture, page 16

Belgrade aims to end poll deadlock

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

SERBIA'S Socialist Party was hoping last night that the country's electoral stalemate was about to be broken. The country's fate depended on 20,000 voters, or less than 1 per cent of the electorate.

They were voting in polling stations where, because of irregularities during the general election of December 19, the vote had to be restaged.

That result yielded a hung parliament with the Socialist Party of President Milosevic gaining 123 seats, three short of a majority. Since then the country has remained paralysed politically because no serious talks on coalition or minority governments can begin until the final result.

Experts believe that yesterday's reruns in 45 polling stations out of 8,887 may change the electoral outcome by one or two seats but are still unlikely to give the Socialists the majority they want. Cynics believe that: if the Socialists are determined to win a majority through ballot-rigging, then this is their last chance.

Meanwhile in the self-proclaimed Republic of Serbian Krajina reruns were taking place in presidential elections. Two weeks ago Milan Babic, a former Krajina President, trounced Milan Martic for the post. Mr Martic, Krajina's fearsome chief of police, cried foul and 50,000 voters were voting again yesterday.

Serbs condemn Times reporter

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE Serbian regime of President Milosevic has refused to extend the press accreditation of Dessa Trevisan, who has been *The Times's* correspondent in Belgrade for more than 30 years. The veteran journalist has also been heavily criticised in the official Serbian press.

The moves against Mrs Trevisan come 18 months after she was shot in the hand in a Belgrade street in an attack which she and observers suspected was carried out by Serb extremists. The Serbian press is heavily regulated and independent journalists have come under increasing pressure and harassment from the Belgrade regime since war broke out in the former Yugoslavia.



Trevisan: targeted

The Times has protested to the Serbian government about the refusal to renew Mrs Trevisan's accreditation, but has not received a reply. Mrs Trevisan, 68, who now has no visa to remain in the country, travelled to Britain last week and may find it difficult to return to the Serbian capital which has been her home for decades. She is of mixed Serb and Croat parentage, but has been a British citizen since renouncing her Yugoslav citizenship after the Second World War.

Two articles criticising Mrs Trevisan in the Belgrade daily *Politika*, contain factual errors, including the statement that she was shot two months before the attack actually took place. The newspaper also accuses her of partiality and attempts to denigrate her in Serb eyes by describing her as a native of the Croatian capital, Zagreb. However, her family fled the city when the Ustashi came to power in 1941.

Richard Owen, Foreign Editor of *The Times*, said yesterday: "We immediately protested about the refusal to accredit a long-standing and distinguished correspondent, who has covered Eastern Europe for more than a quarter of a century. No explanation has been received."

Politika said the reasons for not extending Mrs Trevisan's accreditation were not difficult to understand. "They lie in the texts which everyday she sent to her newsdesk," it said. "Her work ... was given to political tendentiousness." A second article says Mrs Trevisan, "the long-time correspondent of *The Times*, has become persona non grata in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. At the end of this calendar year the Federal Ministry of Information did not extend her accreditation, and with this a visa for extended stay in our country."

Last night, Mrs Trevisan said: "I have left the country and I do not know whether I will be allowed back. I have been covering Yugoslavia since the 1950s and there have been ups and downs but I have never been attacked in this way.

"I feel very sorry for the honourable Serbian journalists who are trying to do their jobs."

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Intelligence claims over North Korean arsenal divide US officials

CIA says Pyongyang has nuclear bomb

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AS Boutros Boutros Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations, was visiting Peking yesterday to try to defuse a crisis over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons programme, it was revealed that the US Central Intelligence Agency and other sources have concluded that North Korea is already in the possession of one or two nuclear bombs. The classified assessment was immediately denounced by State Department officials as an alarmist worst-case scenario.

The UN chief arrived in China after travelling to South and North Korea. Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, told him that Peking opposes sanctions against North Korea and that it felt the issue should be settled through negotiations.

The Chinese news agency, Xinhua, said Mr Boutros Ghali briefed Mr Li on his journey through the Korean peninsula. "China favours a proper settlement of the issue through dialogues and consultations, instead of imposing pressure and sanctions," Mr Li said. He reiterated China's call for a de-nuclearisation of the entire Korean peninsula — an implicit assertion that US nuclear weapons in the South complicate the issue.

The secret CIA document and the State Department's sceptical response underline the difficulties faced by American intelligence agencies to assess accurately and interpret other countries' nuclear weapons programmes. But the leaking of the report, and its conclusions, are bound to add urgency to efforts to persuade Pyongyang to open up its nuclear facilities.

The State Department, according to *The New York Times*, is playing down the implications of the report, which it fears could undermine its own efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the conflict. This came to a head earlier this year, when North Korea prevented international inspectors from examining its seven nuclear facilities.

The Pyongyang government has since softened its stance; first by opening up five of its plants and then recently the remaining two, although there are still a number of unresolved problems, including whether inspectors are allowed to visit waste dumps.

The report's conclusion is not based on a single clear-cut piece of evidence, such as a spy satellite picture, but on a series of indications that confirm the theory that the country has developed one or two bombs. Among those is the detection near a nuclear site of a crater which could have been the result of a nuclear test. The site which attracts most of the suspicions is located 60 miles north of Pyongyang at Yongbyon and includes a nuclear reactor.

The CIA report, according to *The New York Times*, concluded that North Korea has a "better than even" chance of having developed at least one nuclear bomb. The report also challenges the wisdom of economic sanctions as a means to force compliance, arguing that sanctions could even trigger the use of these bombs on South Korea. The CIA estimates that North Korea has extracted 12 kilos of plutonium, enough for two bombs, if put together under the most favourable conditions.

The State Department and the intelligence agencies are at odds, however, whether optimum conditions apply in this case. The State Department challenges the notion that North Korea is capable of producing a crude bomb with as little as 12lb of plutonium, the minimum amount needed, putting into question North Korea's technological sophistication of extracting nuclear fuels. There are also suspicions that the intelligence agencies are unduly alarmist for fear of repeating their mistaken assessment of Iraq's weapons programmes ahead of the Gulf War. Western agencies have at best an imperfect idea of evaluating foreign nuclear weapons programmes, due especially to the technical limitations of spy satellites.

☐ The Clinton administration has come under pressure from Congress to ban the export of nuclear waste from Switzerland for reprocessing in Britain. Under a commercial contract with America, the Swiss government is seeking from the US Energy Department permission to ship used nuclear fuel to Britain's new Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant, otherwise known as Thorp, where the plutonium would be extracted and later shipped back to Switzerland for commercial use.

In their letter to Hazel O'Leary, the US Energy Secretary, a number of Democratic congressmen, including Nancy Pelosi from California and Joseph Kennedy from Massachusetts, wrote that "the United States does not encourage the civil use of plutonium. Its continued production is not justified on either economic or national security grounds, and its accumulation creates serious proliferation and security dangers".

Mr Clinton has recently rejected a call by congressmen to block the start-up of Thorp, and he is unlikely to upset the British and the Swiss governments by preventing the proposed deal.

Leading article, page 13



Boutros Boutros Ghali shown the northern side of the border near Panmunjon by Choe U Jin, the North Korean Deputy Foreign Minister

Afrikaner right's hopes fade in bluff and bluster

■ ANC and National Party strategy of keeping recalcitrant rightwingers talking appears to be working. The reality is few militants have the stomach for a fight

FROM R. W. JOHNSON IN DURBAN

Collapse of last week's deal between the African National Congress and the Afrikaner Volksfront for a separate white homeland again has led many to wonder if this is not a hopeless project. The talks foundered partly due to lack of enthusiasm for such a deal on the part of President de Klerk's National Party (NP), which would like Afrikaners to look to itself for salvation, and partly because of resistance within the ANC.

Such reactions are, however, muffled by the apparent strategy of both ANC and NP to box and cox their way through to the election, keeping their rejectionist opponents within the Freedom Alliance involved in negotiations of one kind or another in the hope that talking will keep the Volksfront, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and other homeland leaders vaguely "in the game".

This tactic, it is hoped, will make it difficult for them to withdraw into open conflict before the election — and will thus get them over the hump into the new South Africa, when they will have very little option but to come to terms, reluctantly, with the new reality.

The strategy is tailored to the tactics of the white right, which consist in continually drawing lines in the sand and threatening war if they are crossed — and then, when they are crossed (for example, when the Transitional Executive Authority was set up), drawing up a new line further down the road and emitting even more violent bluster about the consequences if that line, too, is crossed.

The political reality is that not many whites, however despairing of black rule they may be, have much appetite for a fight. In a sense the whole meaning of "new South Africa" is that the white morale and will to sustain the old South Africa have collapsed. This is not a mood in which hopeless wars are begun or new Israels are founded.

Various schemes for a white homeland exist — in the far northern Transvaal, in the Orange Free State, in the eastern Transvaal or in the northwestern Cape. The latter presents the best bet, purely in terms of a largely empty aea, virtually devoid of blacks and almost wholly Afrikaans-speaking; but it is arid and would require herculean efforts at desalination and irrigation to make much of it.

Moreover, with oil prospecting off the northwest Cape coast now a possibility, no ANC-led government will be in a hurry to surrender that coastline. In any case, while the Volksfront talks boldly of being willing to "give away" the gold and diamond mines, it seems psychologically impossible for it to part with the sole Afrikaans-speaking city, Pretoria: last week's abortive deal centred on a Boerestaat consisting of Pretoria and parts of the eastern Transvaal.

Such a scheme is nonsense. Pretoria draws its life and wealth almost wholly from the fact that it is the seat of government. But if it is to be part of a white homeland all those ministries would, by definition, have to relocate elsewhere. A new government would hardly be quick to pay the costs of such an enormous relocation, and if it did Pretoria's economy would collapse. The only reason why the Volksfront came up with such a crazy scheme is because so many of its supporters live there and it cannot bear to tell them that if they want a white homeland they must move to the Cape.

That would mean Transvaal and Free State conservatives, often lower-middle-class people dependent on public-sector employment, would have to trek south to face dramatically higher property prices and worse job prospects. Probably only large-scale violence could produce such a migration.

But that is the rub. The ANC does not really wish to detract from the unity of the South African state by offering a white homeland at all, and the more significant, and thus viable, a piece of real estate is involved, the more unwilling the ANC is bound to become. Such a concession will only be made if the ANC and others are convinced that it is the only alternative to really large-scale violence.

Hence the white right must threaten such violence continually to have a hope. At the moment its threats are merely being treated as bluster, which may be all that they are. If they are serious about wanting a white homeland, they will probably have to show that their threat of major violence is real.

It is far from clear that even the white right has the stomach for that.

Burst water main gives Washington a dry Christmas

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

AFTER a 48-inch thick water main burst, Washingtonians were subjected to a Christmas without water, the second time this month that America's capital suffered an acute water shortage.

The accident, which highlights Washington's decrepit water infrastructure, could not have happened on a worse day.

Since all the shops were closed during the Christmas holidays, local residents could not — as they usually do — flock to the nearest supermarket and empty the shelves of bottled water. Liquor stores could not help either — they were also closed for Christmas.

Worse still, the break of the water main coincided with the onset of heavy snows and icy weather in the capital and there were not enough police to handle both crises adequately.

On the evening of Christmas Day, normally one of the quietest days of the year, Washington's main access roads and its beltway orbital road were jammed with cars full of people trying to get home after the celebrations. Vehicles were stuck in the snow or sliding on the ice.

A journey from the nearby Maryland suburb into the centre took almost three hours as passengers frequently had to get out and push their cars uphill on icy roads.

The police concentrated their sparse force on the burst water main leaving the traffic chaos to sought itself out. The main is one of Washington's chief supply lines and in parts is about 100 years old. The water fountain that gushed out was more than 12 feet wide and 20 feet high. A sudden drop in temperature to below zero is thought to have caused the burst in the old pipes.

Washingtonians are getting used to life without running water and many already hold large stockpiles of bottled water in their cellars. Earlier this month, the capital's main water treatment plant failed leaving a million people without drinking water. Yesterday's burst main affected about a third of Washington, 120,000 homes mainly in the inner districts. Sharon Pratt Kelly, the mayor of Washington, said that "a lot of our pipes and systems are very old, built at or before the turn of the century".

One resident, whose house would normally have fallen well within this area, was not affected. President Clinton has his own water supply in the White House. He distrusts the local water as much as his neighbours and has stockpiles of bottled water, from Arkansas of course.

The supply was restored in the early hours of the morning. A spokeswoman for the public works department acknowledged that "this was a major break affecting about one-third of the city. Fortunately we have been able to isolate it and there are only a few areas where services have not been restored."

☐ **Poll results:** Americans admire Mr and Mrs Clinton more than anyone else, including their relatives, according to a poll by CNN/ *USA Today*. The President received an admiration rating of 20 per cent, while among the women Mrs Clinton scored 22 per cent. Baroness Thatcher was also among the top five women with a rating of 8 per cent, just ahead of former First Lady Barbara Bush but behind Mother Teresa.

Police issue IOUs in gun-swap deal

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A CHRISTMAS offer to exchange guns for toys in one of New York's most violent neighbourhoods has been such an unexpected success that its sponsor now wants to continue it throughout the year, with new incentives such as groceries, clothing, basketball shoes and concert tickets.

A total of 299 guns were swapped for $100 (£67) toy-shop gift vouchers at the 34th precinct police station, in a crime-infested stretch of upper Manhattan, by the deadline for the four-day programme — midnight on Christmas Day. The scheme, launched by a retailer at the suggestion of his teenage son, proved so popular that police ran out of gift certificates and for a time were forced to hand out IOUs until new sponsors were found.

The initial $5,000 to cover the first 50 guns in the scheme — which Raymond Kelly, the New York Police Commissioner, has called the "Miracle of 34th Precinct" — was put up by Fernando Mateo, the owner of a local carpet shop. Besides the obvious Christmas publicity aspect, it seemed a serious attempt to combat crime in the poor, violence-ridden neighbourhood of Washington Heights.

Other businesses put up a further $20,000, including £10,000 from the Toys 'R' Us chain. Now the precinct is seeking more money to pay for the IOUs and continue the programme through to the end of the year, a police spokesman said.

Police in the precinct, where there have been 65 murders so far in 1993, had collected only seven guns all year under an existing city-wide gun amnesty which pays up to $75 in cash to people who turn in their weapons. But word of the "toys for guns" programme spread fast after it began last Wednesday, and gun-owners hurried to redeem their weapons for gift certificates.

By the end of Christmas Day, police had 15 milk crates full of assorted handguns and a cupboard full of rifles. And hundreds of erstwhile gun-owners were shopping for Christmas presents with their gift vouchers at a local toy shop.

The weapons surrendered ranged from a broken hunting rifle and three antique pistols, to a one-bullet pistol disguised as a pen and a sub-machinegun. A delighted Mr Mateo said he wanted to set up a year-round "gun-bartering" programme.

"I want to reach out to corporate America now," he said. "If kids know they can turn in their guns for sneakers, clothing or airline tickets, they'll do it."

At the precinct, the growing cache of weapons spanned generations and types, but police refused to accept toy guns which some people attempted to exchange.

Jose — who did not want to reveal his last name or profession — surrendered a semi-automatic handgun. "I guess I probably still need it," he told *The New York Times*. "but this thing is too good to just let go by." His daughter, he said, "wanted a doll house, but it was too expensive. With this money I'll be able to do it now".

Official records show that almost 129,000 New Yorkers have permits to own pistols or rifles, but police estimate that there are about two million guns on the city's streets.

Nobel writings feared lost in fire

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A CHRISTMAS Day fire razed the Hudson river home of Toni Morrison, the black American author who won the 1993 Nobel prize for literature, possibly destroying some of her original manuscripts.

Ms Morrison, 62, whose lyrical novels of black American life include *Beloved*, *Jazz* and *Song of Solomon*, was not at home when flames engulfed the three-storey riverside house just after 9am on Christmas morning. Her son Slade, 28, said the fire began when a spark from a fireplace ignited a couch. He tried unsuccessfully to fight the blaze before escaping unharmed to call the fire brigade.

By the time the first fire engine arrived at the house, which lies on the banks of the Hudson river 15 miles north of New York, flames had already consumed half of the timber building.



Firefighters battle to put out the blaze at the home of Toni Morrison, the Nobel Prize-winning author

Homes like Ms Morrison's sell for upwards of $500,000 (£340,000). The author, who was divorced in 1964 from Harold Morrison, an architect, has owned the house for more than ten years.

"We went in the unburnt portion and tried to keep the fire to the rear half, but it was pretty much of a futile effort," said Paul Wannamaker, the local fire chief. "The fire had too much headway." One firefighter was treated for injuries to his neck when a portion of the ceiling collapsed. A second firefighter suffered some minor burns on his neck.

According to Mr Wannamaker, Ms Morrison, who teaches at Princeton University, arrived at the house about two hours after the blaze "and mentioned she had manuscripts on the premises". The author "was pretty upset, but she was handling the situation the best she could", he said.

The fire chief said he had advised Ms Morrison not to enter the ruined building to search for the missing manuscripts. He added that "there's a possibility these manuscripts may have been in an area protected from fire".

Mr Wannamaker said that, as a matter of routine, the Rockland County arson squad would investigate the fire.

Hundreds die on South Africa roads

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

FOR the first time in three years, South Africa has experienced a Christmas almost free of political violence, but the carnage on the roads has left traffic authorities in despair. Between December 1 and the end yesterday of the Christmas season, which coincides with the main holiday period, 550 people had been killed.

Nearly 40 per cent of fatal accidents were alcohol-related, the Ministry of Transport said in Pretoria.

Police said they were suspending foot patrols in Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, after a black constable was shot dead on his beat yesterday, the fourth murder of a policeman in the township this month. In future, police will only patrol with an escort from the Internal Stability Unit, which the African National Congress is insisting should be withdrawn from the townships. Another black policeman was shot dead on Christmas Day on the East Witwatersrand.

More than 70 people have died on the roads since Thursday. The Traffic Safety Directorate said: "We have given warnings ad nauseam on speeding, overloading of taxis, safe following distances and drunken driving, but motorists have not heeded them."

A Transport Directorate official said: "Drivers have taken to travelling late at night or very early in the morning to avoid traffic officials."

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Cuba limps down the capitalist road under tax burden



Jackson: on a Christmas Day visit to Havana

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

■ President Castro plans an austerity package, signalling a capitalist-style rethinking of policy. Economists believe it is too little and too late

MARKING a further retreat from communism, Cuba is embarking on an austere economic course with a new round of reforms to be presented to Cuba's National Assembly later today.

The capitalist-style package coincides with a visit by the Rev Jesse Jackson, the civil rights leader and most prominent American politician to visit Cuba in the country's 34 years of revolution. It is his second time in Havana in ten years; in 1984 he secured the release of about 40 political prisoners.

The Communist Party officially abolished Christmas 25 years ago, but for those who still remember what the festive season was like, there was little to celebrate this year. On Christmas Eve, Cubans were told through the state newspaper *Granma*, that the central committee of the Communist Party, headed by Dr Castro, had approved a series of economic stabilisation measures, including massive lay-offs in state-run businesses, hefty cuts in state subsidies, and the gradual introduction of income and property taxes.

Starting today, the National Assembly of Popular Power, which meets twice a year, will hold three days of discussions, before giving its traditional rubber-stamp approval of the measures. Cuban officials had hinted at the reforms for several months, but hesitated over their implementation, fearing the political and social costs of what amounts to a drastic capitalist-style rethinking of economic policy.

Taxes will be a new experience for Cubans who are used to being provided with everything by the state, although cutbacks have forced severe rationing of food and clothing, while public services such as electricity and transport have been reduced. Most state factories are idle, with workers kept on to do what are officially described as "repairs." Many employees have been sent home on 40 per cent of their salaries, amounting to less than $2 (£1.35) a month. If they have not found a new job in three months, they are told to take agricultural jobs or lose their benefits.

Analysts remain sceptical about the direction of economic reforms, which began in July when it became legal to trade in American dollars. But observers are beginning to look at the measures more seriously, noting signs of profound and irreversible change.

Economists believe the reforms may be too little too late, in the face of a devastating economic slide in the three years since Cuba lost crucial financial support from the former Soviet bloc.

"They know they have to move toward the market from a centrally planned economy. The question is how far and how quickly," said Carmelo Mesa-Lago, an economist at Pittsburgh University.

Cuba gave further evidence of its intentions when it invited two officials from the International Monetary Fund to inform leaders about the transition experiences of Eastern Europe. Cuba does not belong to the IMF or the World Bank and has been a fierce critic of such international financial institutions, accusing them of impoverishing the Third World to benefit rapacious Western investors.

A summary of the IMF visit warned that "time is running out" and urged swift reforms. It added that the Cuban government has decided that maintaining its inefficient, centrally planned economy "would inevitably rupture the social fabric, with all the remaining accomplishments of Cuba's political and social model disappearing in the wreckage".

But Washington remains unimpressed, arguing that economic reform must be accompanied by political freedom. In keeping with his tough stand on human rights, Mr Jackson has another list of dissidents he hopes to free, including Fidel Castro's granddaughter, whose mother, Alina Fernández, defected to America last week.

But Mr Jackson's advocacy of human rights is matched by his attacks on Washington's outmoded, Cold War policy. "I would hope that as the US looks at its policy towards Cuba that just as the case of Mexico, the case of China, we would use aggressive, constructive engagement on economic policy in pursuit of political change," he said. "The logical conclusion of trying to suffer Cuba into change could have a devastating impact . . . if the suffering and shortages were to induce violence and a struggle with this country."

China chips away at Mao colossus on birthday centenary

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

WITH Christmas officially banned, Boxing Day in Peking focused on celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mao Tse-tung. The celebrations, however, were filled with nuance and code understood by Chinese to mean that, while Mao had been a great man, they were now better off without him.

This ambiguity was seen in the press and in the carefully choreographed celebrations in Peking's Great Hall of the People, where 10,000 officials and a selection of Mao's relatives gathered to praise the man whose campaigns caused the deaths of hundreds of their colleagues and sent many of those present into years of internal exile.

Jiang Zemin, the state President and party General Secretary, managed to convey two messages at once: quoting Deng Xiaoping, Mr Jiang noted that "what we are doing now is what Comrade Mao Tse-tung put forward but did not do, rectifying what he wrongly opposed, and doing well what he had not done well".

Mr Jiang also repeated one of the most obscure of Mr Deng's remarks: Mao's mistakes were those "of a great revolutionary and a great Marxist". This phrase occurred first in the party's 1981 judgment on Mao, that Mr Deng had overseen, in which it was stated that the Cultural Revolution was the "greatest catastrophe" to befall China since 1949 and that the man chiefly responsible was Mao.

In a further ambiguity, the official press hailed Mao but omitted important signs of great honour, like publishing his picture on their front pages and printing their headlines in red. And their leading articles urged their readers to honour Mao, not by reading his works but by studying those of Deng Xiaoping.

Christmas was banned, according to the national press, together with Valentine's Day and All Fool's Day, in order to combat Western-inspired "spiritual pollution" and to concentrate on "the outstanding national life of China".

On Christmas Eve, President Jiang unveiled a huge statue of Mao in Shaoshan, his birthplace, and bowed before it. In the Shaoshan museum, among the many rooms exhibiting scenes from Mao's life, however, nothing is shown of the Cultural Revolution — 1966-76 — or of Mao's fourth wife, Jiang Qing, leader of the Gang of Four, who committed suicide two years ago in her prison cell. Museum attendants fall into embarrassed silence when asked about the excluded exhibits.

Marking Mao's birth has presented the present leadership with a challenge: how to praise the man who had done great harm to China and to many millions of its citizens — and often to many of the leaders themselves — without raising questions about why they had served him so loyally and seemingly without question right up to his death in 1976? To attack Mao directly would cast doubt on communism itself, which the party insists is the faith and discipline which justifies its continuing leadership.

Certain problems, therefore, had to be ignored: the great famine of 1959-61, which cost between 25 and 50 million lives, and earlier violent campaigns, such as the anti-rightist drive of the late 1950s which victimised well over 500,000 intellectuals, sometimes for more than 20 years. This is an especially sensitive subject, because the party's General Secretary of the time was Mr Deng, who has always maintained that the anti-rightist campaign was necessary, if overdone, and is himself the beneficiary of a current personality cult.

In such an atmosphere of double-think and un-fact, nothing can be too bizarre. Inside a cave in the southern province of Guangxi, which one penetrates by boat, there is a 39ft-high rock formation described as looking just like Mao with his hair swept back; on Hainan Island, Mao's daughter Li Na (whose mother was the unmentionable Jiang Qing) has praised a particular mountain she insists is a "perfect likeness" of her father flat on his back.

The least plausible praise came from Tibet where, although the Chinese occupiers are widely despised, the *Tibet Daily* asserted that so widespread is "the Mao craze" that Tibetans hang the Chairman's image next to Buddha's.

Like a Bodhisattva, a person able to reach the state of nirvana, the paper reports, Mao is regarded in Tibet as one of those sacred beings, "the kindest, the most benevolent and the most intelligent, of boundless beneficence who resides in heaven", for whom holy water is offered and butter lamps are lit.

Peking: China said it had found part of a satellite that broke up in space after its launch on October 8. But the Xinhua news agency made no mention of the satellite's commemorative cargo — a Chairman Mao badge set with 44 diamonds to mark Mao's December 26 centenary birthday, which was expected to attract high bids at an auction back on Earth. *(Reuter)*



Dressed in Mao suits, Chinese pose in front of a portrait of Mao Tse-tung in Peking to mark the centenary of his birth

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mindanao bombers kill seven in cathedral

Manila: Bombers hurled three grenades into a Roman Catholic cathedral packed with Christmas worshippers, killing seven people and injuring about 130 others. Rodrigo Duterte, Mayor of Davao City, said three grenades exploded at the San Pedro cathedral.

Davao City is the largest city in Mindanao, the country's second largest island, and about 600 miles south of Manila. The Rev Bong Dublan said he saw an assailant throw two grenades from the back of the cathedral as he was saying the Offertory.

He said the cathedral would be closed indefinitely. Five people were killed in a similar attack at the cathedral in 1981. No group claimed responsibility for the explosions, but suspicion fell on Muslim extremists.

Although Davao is a largely Christian city, Mindanao is the traditional homeland of the country's 6 million-strong Muslim minority. Muslim groups have been blamed for many attacks on Catholics in the southern Philippines. Four missionaries — three Spaniards and an American — have kidnapped in separate incidents since October 1992. All of them were eventually released.

Landslide toll

Algeria: A landslide killed at least 15 people and injured 62 others, including 21 children, when it swept away homes in a poor hillside area of Oran on Christmas Day. Ten are still buried. *(Reuter)*

Suicide drive

New York: Dr Jack Kevorkian, 65, the retired pathologist who favours euthanasia, wants to mount a campaign across Michigan to overturn a state ban on assisted suicides. The ban was enacted this year specifically to stop him. *(AP)*

Rebel justice

Colombo: Gopalaswamy Mahendrarajah, a former leader of Sri Lanka's Tamil rebels, and 120 of his followers are likely to be executed next month for betraying the organisation, according to the *Sunday Observer*. *(Reuter)*

Police shot

Cairo: Gunmen shot dead four policemen on their way to work at El Qusiya, 190 miles south of Cairo. A civilian died in crossfire. More than 230 have been killed and 630 injured in fundamentalist violence in Egypt in the past 21 months. *(Reuter)*

Bulgaria shock

Sandanski, Bulgaria: Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian neo-Fascist leader, on a private visit here upset Bulgaria with a proposal to replace its President with an obscure Bulgarian, Svetoslav Stoilov, who advises him on the European economy. *(Reuter)*

PLO looks for compromise deal

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI and Palestinian negotiators are to resume talks in Cairo today in an increasingly desperate attempt to unblock the stalled negotiations that have paralysed prospects for peace.

Although negotiators in the space of three months have moved the venue of their talks from the Egyptian resort of Taba to Cairo, Oslo, Paris, and now back to Cairo, none of the locations has produced the breakthrough needed.

Yesterday Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, arrived in Cairo for talks with President Mubarak, who is attempting to mediate on several issues before the negotiations. "I hope to receive tomorrow positive answers from Israel on the questions we have put to them in Oslo and Paris," the PLO leader said.

Senior Israeli and Palestinian figures are predicting that a compromise would be found on the three key questions that have delayed the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. The two sides disagree on who will control the future borders of the Palestinian self-ruled entities, the size of the Jericho enclave and the scale of the Israeli military presence in Gaza.

"I believe that the most important issues will be solved on Monday," said Faisal Husseini, the most senior PLO official in the occupied territories, who identified the main problem as defining the overall powers of a Palestinian transitional government.

At yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, ministers were informed that Israel would be willing to offer compromise solutions, including doubling the size of the Palestinian entity in Jericho and offering the PLO a symbolic role in border controls.

However, the Israelis have made it clear that ultimate authority on who and what is allowed into the Palestinian areas will remain in their control. Yossi Sarid, the left-wing Environment Minister, who is part of the Israeli delegation, said: "If there will be no meaningful progress in the current round in Cairo, it will be a very bad sign for the negotiations."

He was referring to the damage that the delay has caused among Israelis, whose confidence has been shaken by a campaign of violence and intimidation orchestrated by militants in both communities. Many Israelis are concerned that Fatah, the mainstream PLO faction loyal to Mr Arafat, will not be able to keep order in areas where militant Palestinians are emerging as the dominant force.

On Friday the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, ambushed an Israeli military vehicle in Gaza, killing a colonel and injuring a major.

□ **Marjayoun:** Pro-Syrian guerrillas fired machineguns at Israeli-allied militiamen in south Lebanon yesterday, killing a senior militia commander and wounding two civilians, security sources said. The attack took place on the coastal Hamra passageway which separates the western sector of Israel's self-designated "security zone" from the rest of southern Lebanon. The Amal movement, comprising Shia Muslims, claimed responsibility. *(AP)*

Blonde dancer's fast footwork rescues palace of flamenco

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

For two centuries, the 18th-century palace in Calle Amor de Dios near the tapas bars of Plaza Santa Ana in Madrid has shuddered to the stamp of feet, echoed to the clatter of castanets and the haunting rhythm of the Spanish guitar. The huge stained mirrors in the studios have dimly reflected the fiery dancers of Spain's most famous flamenco school.

"Somehow the atmosphere was perfect: the peeling paint, leaking roofs, broken chairs and the hubcaps for ashtrays," said Ian Davies, 39, a flamenco guitarist from Swiss Cottage, London, who has "gone native". But a few months ago the owners of the building decided to sell after trendy bars and jazz clubs opened near by. The 75-year-old lessee of the studios lived in Dickensian conditions so tempted by an offer of a free flat, he sold out.

True Spanish hysteria ensued. Nobody knew what to do. It was left to a foreigner, who has danced at Amor de Dios for 25 years, to go into action. "La Rubia" is a 6ft blonde who has danced all over the world.

She was born Elke Stolzenberg in Germany and once worked as a photographer with the *San Francisco Examiner*. Now she is the official flamenco photographer for the region.

She first approached the city hall in the search for new studios but, as she had been one of the organisers of last year's disastrous "Cultural Capital of Europe", officials turned her down.

Then Elke met Ramón Caravaca, councillor for culture and education in the regional government.

Nobody knows quite how it happened, but just a few days before Christmas, when the doors of Amor de Dios had been locked, Joaquin Sanjuan, president of Madrid's 30 flamenco clubs, led a procession of dance teachers and students to the new studios provided by the Comunidad de Madrid.

Maria de Magdalena, a teacher at Amor de Dios, was awe-struck. "We owe a lot to Elke." She winked.

TSTEAL THEIR FURNITURE.

reduction on everything, you could find yourself walking off with a few hot items.

Even at the season of goodwill, there are some people who deserve to be given the bird — preferably over and over again

The Year of the Electric Parrot



LIBBY PURVES

Every Christmas Day there are some presents which might as well belong to anybody. The entire company forgets who owns the object, because it is so perfectly suited to large, tipsy, multi-generation gatherings. Nor does the owner care, since it is clear that from concept to point-of-sale this product has been designed to walk off the shelves, thrill for an hour and be thrown in the cupboard thereafter.

Our extended family has experienced a good few of these. There was the year of the ski-ing penguins, which squawked up some stairs and then slithered down a twisting piste; this had a second lease of life when the combined talents of an uncle and a four-year-old discovered you could make the penguins *hurl themselves* like lemmings into the nearest glass of water with a plop. Their rollers went rusty, but who cared? There was the year of the "Pin-art", when everyone could unhygienically produce a Tate Gallery death-mask version of their eyelids, nose, lips etc by pressing the desired bit against a row of close-set sliding pins, the heads of which produced a dotted pattern in relief. And this year, there was The Parrot.

You will have seen the parrots on the shelves, just before Christmas: rank upon rank of them, boxed, looking furrily ordinary. You hurried past their price-tag, muttering "Waste of money!" Whereon the display parrot on its perch yelled back shrilly: "Waste o'money! Waste o'money!" and flapped its wings. Once you had discovered that this fearful creature picks up two seconds of any sound — tag of speech, oath, child's wail, whatever — and repeats it back twice in a squeaky parody voice, you are hooked. I queued at the till with a man holding two. "I am anticipating" he said pedantically, "an antiphonal effect".

Ours was the hit of the day. Self-conscious and patronising overtures such as "Who's a pretty boy?" soon gave way to satisfying experimentation with whoopee cushions, party blowers, and the thruster-motors of a plastic USS Starfleet Shuttlecraft. We set up a duet with the singing Father Christmas (circa 1960), which comes out every year and emits *Jingle Bells* in a Robert Maxwell growl when you punch its belt-buckle. Then we trained the parrot to shout "Back to Basics!" and thought of putting it up for the next safe seat.

Then we stood it on the television for the Queen's broadcast. It was an interesting experiment, electronically and psychologically. The creature got switched off, out of respect, when H.M. talked solemn sense, but its button was jabbed to allow the occasional grating shriek of "Commonwealth family!" or "all work together!".

Then Quentin Crisp's prolonged moan about how nasty London is compared with New York found the parrot eerily picking up the word "celebrity!" on the frequent occasions when Mr Crisp referred to his own. We left it there for the news, and let it shriek along with the bookies who lost £18,000 on a White Christmas, and support Dr Carey with grating mutters about Basic Christianity. It became plain that electric parrots greatly enhance broadcasting: I deeply regret not having had it by me for the uniquely batty punch-up last Thursday on *The Moral Maze*, where panelists attempted to show their grasp of the essential spirit of the Christmas legend by howling one another down and arguing about whether Dame Jill Knight counted as "a woman in a hat", even though she doesn't wear one. All it needed was our parrot to join in with "Didn't come here to be insulted! Here to be insulted! Nonsense! Nonsense! Shut up, Janet, shut up Janet!" for the full theological subtlety of the programme to come out.

By switching the parrot off, guiltily, when it becomes tasteless, you discover just how much public speech is well worth mocking. As democratic comment, it reminds me of the tactic this Christmas by the municipal workers' union in Madrid. They are employing a man to follow their mayor everywhere dressed in a bear suit, carrying a briefcase with the words "Pay what you owe". The bear sits behind him on aeroplanes, waves over his shoulder, imitates his gestures, and foils all his attempts at leaving functions through a side door. At official occasions they form a procession: unwilling mayor, lumbering bear, and cheering, laughing children. I bet he ends up giving in.

We should remember this folk-tale approach. In a democracy a bit of ridicule works better than violence because it attracts instead of alienating sympathy. In the 1960s, straight after Enoch Powell's "Rivers of blood" speech, the Oxford student Left was working on giving him a nasty reception. A group of us suggested that it would be safer, more fun, and infinitely better publicity if we were merely to line his route with alternate black and white faces, arms linked, grinning happily. Think of the newspaper pictures!

But it was no good: the shouters, car-thumpers and stone-throwers won, and we derisive parrots lost. I still think it was a shame.



Will your favourite diet be the death of you?

Slimming plans are not only expensive — they can be downright dangerous. **Peter Bazalgette** and **Dr Tom Sanders** look at an industry that has grown fat by trading on fear, and issue a warning: watch out, diets can ruin your health



Classical proportions: women in Rubens's Judgement of Paris may not suit contemporary fashion but they are the shape that nature intended

The diet industry is damaging both our health and our wealth as we waste larger and larger sums of money on products which do us no good. It particularly exploits women by encouraging the pursuit of unhealthy slenderness.

What is the matter with us? Why are we taken in by shysters no different from the pedlars of the Wild West with their snake oil? Why do we allow the diet industry to cash in by selling us powders and snack bars at inflated prices? Why have we developed a fear of food?

One reason is the idea that all body fat is unhealthy. This is not true. In the public's mind, obesity is often linked to an increased risk of heart disease. However, most experts do not regard obesity on its own as an independent risk factor for heart disease in the absence of raised blood pressure, raised blood cholesterol or diabetes. But they do agree that if you have these conditions, you should keep your weight under control.

There has been a huge increase in obesity among British men, from 6 per cent in 1980 to 13 per cent in 1991. But rates of heart disease have fallen by about 30-35 per cent over the same period.

It is quite natural for women to be fatter than men; indeed, it is essential for normal reproduction. So what are the real risks posed by fat to health?

- The hazards of obesity have been grossly exaggerated compared with other dangers, such as smoking.
- To be very fat is undesirable because it increases the risk of several medical conditions.
- There are few hazards associated with plumpness and these are confined mainly to *men with raised blood pressure*, blood cholesterol and diabetes.
- For women, the health risks of being fat are minor and plumpness has advantages.
- The health risks of being very thin are much greater than those of being plump.
- Rapid weight-loss can be hazardous.
- Repeated weight-loss followed by weight-gain is even more hazardous.

Most doctors would agree that maintaining an acceptable weight is the best way to stay healthy. This means that the diet industry does far more to threaten our health than to safeguard it.

Fatness in women confers a number of benefits to health. Fat women are less likely than thin women to suffer from early menopause, heart disease and osteoporosis. On the other hand, women who become anorexic suffer from high blood cholesterol levels and an increased risk of heart disease.

It is crucial to understand that plumpness is healthier than thinness. This is what the medical evidence shows. But it is the opposite of what we are normally told.

Most diet books work in the sense that they usually offer a short-term programme of restricted calorie-intake that can lead to weight-loss. They usually claim rapid weight loss because we all enjoy seeing results and feeling that we're achieving something. But rapid weight loss can be harmful.

It can seriously weaken bones through loss of minerals, it increases the risks of gout, gallstones and heart disease and it damages the normal mechanisms that help control body weight so that weight is regained more easily afterwards.

Gradual weight-loss, coupled with learning how to moderate food intake and activity level *for good*, is the only way to avoid the damaging cycle of weight gain and weight loss (known as yo-yoing or weight cycling). Losing weight in the short-term is rather easier than keeping it off in the long run. This is where most diet books fail completely. They offer false hope, encourage faddy eating and ensnare women in the diet trap. We have analysed some of the recent bestsellers to see how valid they are.

Rosemary Conley's Hip and Thigh Diet

This has sold more than two million copies since its publication in 1988. The book combines a low-fat diet with exercises. There is the strong implication that this low-fat diet enables you to spot-reduce fat from your hips and thighs (*"we really can spot reduce our bodies, and not just on hips and thighs"*). In fact, when dieting, our bodies lose fat from inside the abdominal cavity first, then from the face and between the shoulder blades, and then from the hips and thighs.

> Most diet books offer false hope and fail us totally

This book gives little or no advice as to which of us really needs to lose weight for health reasons and which of us does not. It is characteristic of people with eating disorders to think they need to lose weight when, in fact, they are dangerously underweight.

The *Hip and Thigh Diet* perpetuates the idea that there is a particular kind of female fat called cellulite. However, this term has no medical status whatsoever. The term was invented by French cosmetics manufacturers to help them sell more cream products for "cellulite removal". The fact is that women's thighs are prone to fat deposits just below the skin. It is entirely natural.

Among the items on the *Hip and Thigh Diet* "forbidden list" are all yellow spreads and fatty fish, though fish oil was dropped in the second edition. The oil in fatty fish may actually help prevent heart disease. Not only are these fats and oils in moderation a valuable part of any diet, but the "forbidden list" implies that there are "good" and "bad" foods. This is contrary to current thinking about nutrition which encourages a balanced range of foods rather than faddy obsessions with particular foods.

The Hay Diet

Dr William Hay invented "food combining" in the early years of this century, long before modern medicine and nutrition and the detailed knowledge we now have about how our bodies work. He believed that disease resulted from the accumulation of toxins and acid waste in our bodies. The way to cure disease was to avoid eating "foods that fight". You should not mix proteins and carbohydrates in the same meal, and you should eat foods which restore the body's natural balance between acids and alkalis. The Hay diet was given a particular boost when it was revealed in 1991 that the Duchess of York had been following it. Yet there is no scientific evidence to support this theory. The whole idea of food combining is nutritional nonsense. But in our faddy age the idea of food combining has caught on.

The Rotation Diet

This book suggests changing the level of calorie intake from week to week — 600 per day to 900, to 1,200, to 600 and so on. The theory is that with relatively low-calorie diets the body's metabolic rate (the speed at which it burns off energy) falls, so that when the dieter returns to normal eating the body needs fewer calories. The result is that dieting makes you fat. The diet claims to avoid this "reduced metabolism" by changing the calorie intake. We do not accept this theory.

You may lose weight, but this is because of the sometimes drastic reduction in calorie intake. Six hundred calories a day is too low an intake at any time — such a drastic reduction, even for a week, could lead to the same problems that other low calorie diets cause. Also, our metabolism is too sophisticated to be "fooled" in the way the book claims. We do not recommend this diet.

Size 12 in 21 Days

This book, by Judith Will, is one of the more recent bestsellers. She offers a diet-plus-exercise programme. The book encourages rapid weight-loss and exaggerates the amount of weight that can be safely lost. It implies that dieting is a healthy activity. There is little, if any, evidence offered for such efficacy of diet and exercises. Some of the claims are ill-founded.

Few diet books encourage sensible weight loss and ordered, healthy eating. The *F-Plan Diet*, which sold more than a million copies in the early 1980s, offered a 1,000-calorie-a-day diet with a high level of fibre in it. The idea was that bulky fibre would make us feel full and decrease our desire to eat. (After a while, our stomachs probably adjust to a bulkier diet and the importance of fibre is now considered to be only one part of the healthy eating message). It was a reasonable weight-loss programme, with no bogus science.

But responsible diet books are few, and far between. As long as the vogue for thinness persists, and as long as the fashion industry perpetrates its weird version of the ideal woman, we will continue to "go on diets". To satisfy this urge, more and more diet books will appear, year by year, with new fads and novel gimmicks. Here is our checklist by which to assess them. If they promise any of the following things, do not buy them:

Rapid weight loss (more than 2lb a week); cures for "cellulite"; "detoxification"; spot-reductions of fat; metabolism boosting; food combining; reliance on one particular food, such as carrots, grapefruit or pineapple.

● An edited extract from You Don't Have to Diet *by Tom Sanders and Peter Bazalgette, to be published next week by Bantam (£5.99). All rights reserved.*

TOMORROW

What are the influences in society that can persuade healthy girls that they should diet?



Lisa Brush with John Paul Jones DeJoria Chairman and Co-founder of John Paul Mitchell Systems Inc

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هكذا من الأصل

What will be the new fashion essentials of the New Year?

A classic for our time



Fashion
IAIN R. WEBB

ONCE upon a time a Chanel suit, a Hermès headscarf, or even an anonymous cashmere twinset reigned supreme as the ultimate classics. However, fashion can turn on a sixpence, and such obvious objects of desire are now regarded as less than credible.

This change in direction has seen the overt and ostentatious replaced by the laid back and self-effacing. All-enveloping monastic robes heralded a new mood of modesty. Colour drained from the wardrobe, with black emerging as the basis of every winter collection. Of course, the 1994 collections embrace even newer trends. Most importantly a re-evaluation of short hemlines, this time shown so sky high as to make a supermodel blush — although they don't appear to deserve the adulatory moniker any more, for now they are photographed bare faced, looking bemused, dressed in a ragamuffin mix of designer essentials. Realness is what's really new.

What then constitutes a classic in 1994? What are the stylish symbols which define our time? *The Times* asked leading names in the fashion world to nominate classics for the new age.



Anne Klein creates schoolgirl chic



The skindress, to be worn under or over: designed and photographed by Karl Lagerfeld



Sleek suit and shirt by Paul Smith



The clinging spaghetti slip by Ghost



Flyte Ostell's asymmetric tunic

Donna Karan, designer: "For 1993, the slip dress, it was the new foundation for dressing, to take you from day to evening. For 1994 a pair of *sneakers*."

Jean Paul Gaultier, designer: "The kippa (the skullcap worn by Jews) for 1993, symbolic, a message of tolerance; and for 1994 a string of pearls but worn between the ear and the nose, the ultimate way to wear a classic."

Alexandra Shulman, editor of British *Vogue*: "A classic has to maintain its presence for longer than a year, but my nomination would be the tunic top. Labels don't matter but fabric does, witness Flyte Ostell's satins and crushed silks, Ben de Lisi's velvets and crepe de Chines and Donna Karan's long asymmetric silk knits."

Paul Smith, designer: "After Deconstruction is Construction. Deconstruction was a reaction against 1980s power dressing. Designer status symbols are no longer on the agenda for the 1990s. The relaxed way of dressing of 1993 continues but the emphasis is now on construction. The New Year focuses on simplicity of style, as opposed to the fashion costumes of the 1980s.

"The new classics concentrate on the signatures of bespoke tailoring: handmade buttons, handstitched edges and interesting lining. The perfect white shirt will continue to be a timeless classic, handstitched details for 1994 of course."

Nicola Jeal, editor of *Elle* magazine: "The whole concept of classics changed in 1993. Classic as an investment item went out of the wardrobe. Suddenly 'classic' as in smart was no longer cool.

"Classics had to look casual — enter the *skinny* velvet jacket, score one point for brand new, ten for secondhand. Ditto the other classic of 1993 the navy, short reefer/pea coat. In 1994, clever stylists will search for 'classic inspiration' in 'alternative' areas — lingerie and school uniform departments to emulate the Anne Klein image.

"Slip dresses, pyjama-shape trousers, 'old-school' sportswear and items that are reminiscent of regulation school uniform. And feet? The old beach classic — flip-flops, of course."

Karl Lagerfeld, designer and photographer: "The classic of 1993/94 is *the skindress*" (a see-through stretch dress which is worn under, or over other items of clothing as designed by Karl Lagerfeld).

Tanya Sarne, designer of Ghost: "For 1993, the Doc Marten boot or any clumpy boot, the fashion look of young girls, worn with flowery dresses; variations on T-shirts and Levis, which are always classics.



Pearls with Eastern promise

"For 1994 I think the classic will be a plain bias cut dress with spaghetti straps, either long or short; bias cutting is good because it clings to curves but it stretches so you don't have to diet. Also vests and skinny jumpers, unstructured, loose things that are wearable and easily washable and that you can wear and make your own, they don't wear you."

Jean Muir, designer: "With great humour (and a large packet of salt), my classic for 1993 would be the *Very Jean Muir* films shown on Channel 4 this previous autumn. The classic for 1994 is the Glenys Barton sculpture of Miss Muir that appears in The National Portrait Gallery exhibition 'The Portrait Now'."

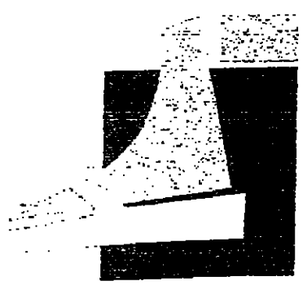
Lucinda Chambers, fashion director of British *Vogue*: "My definition of a classic is something that has proved itself over a period of time such as a well cut black jacket by Chanel, Versace or Jil Sander, depending on your taste. It suits anyone whatever their age."

Calvin Klein, designer: "The classics for 1993 were the black wool crepe suit and the new pea jacket. The ankle boot, definitely. 1994 is about a new spareness and logic, with an emphasis on softness and fluid dressing. A beautiful, tailored man's suit with a narrow pant and a narrow blazer coat will be the 'new' classic."

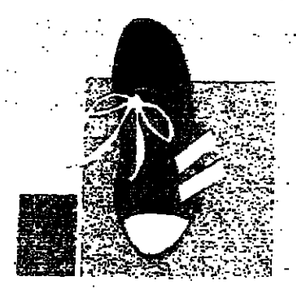
Gianni Versace, designer: "Every designer dreams of creating something classic. I can't even tell how many times I tried to renew what was 'classic', to create something that could become the 'classic of tomorrow'. In the past ten years I've been working a lot on this subject, and I'm sure that the combat boot is a classic for these years like a Chanel shoe was in the past.

"A print silk shirt is a Versace must which can give a pair of jeans elegance and fantasy. The 'classic' for 1994 will be the Versace leggings because they perfectly fit a woman's silhouette. They are sexy and comfortable at the same time. Perfect for a modern woman."

Lucille Lewin, owner of the Whistles chain: "My classic for 1994 is the scrunch silk skirt which has been a best seller at Whistles since 1985, and will, I think, continue to be so. It is so versatile. Washable, non-iron, and can be worn day or night."



The flip-flop has made a real hit



Runaway success: the sneaker

All catwalk photographs: CHRIS MOORE
Paul Smith photograph: Martyn Thompson
Illustrations: Iain R. Webb

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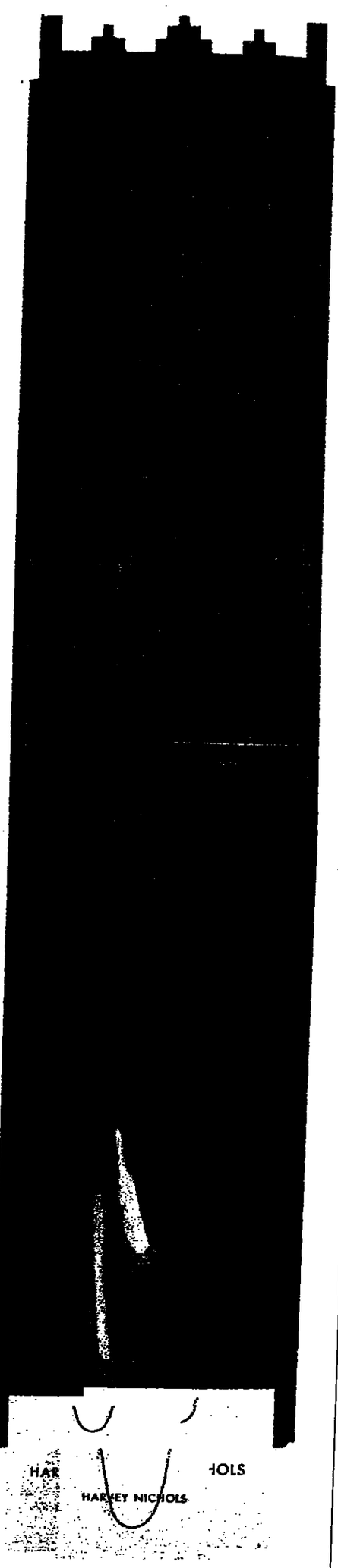
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Matthew Parris



■ What is so special about human beings? All creatures great and small deserve a place on the honours list

Tear down the Christmas decorations, here come the serious decorations. Discarding the silly hats from our Christmas crackers, we turn to the other silly hats, the official silly hats, the enduring silly hats made of sterner stuff than crepe. The New Year's Honours List looms.

Who would decry this piece of harmless British fun? Like the annual flu epidemic, the annual flood, the annual drought and the annual blizzard, like the annual celebrated unspeakable crime and the annual moral panic about child abuse, New Year's honours are part of the rhythm of our national life. I do not wish to abolish but to embellish the institution. I have a modest proposal. Why not have a New Year's honours list for animals?

We British love our animals. MPs get ten times as many representations from constituents concerned about animals as from those concerned about children in distress at home, or adults starving abroad. We discover in our pets all the qualities of intellect and feeling that we discover in ourselves, only with the quality we miss, too: innocence. And not just among domestic pets. In field, stream, hedgerow and pond we find furry heroes, finny heroines, feathered genius and scaly devotion. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has more members than the Conservative Party.

> 'We find furry heroes, finny heroines, feathered genius and scaly devotion'

Why then, when we recognise in animals all the higher moral qualities which we honour among ourselves, should we never honour them among animals? The question must now be not whether Her Majesty should bestow recognition for loyalty, genius, bravery, duty and service among animals, but why she has withheld it for so long? Even the Roman Catholic Church has recently altered its teaching to allow that animals have souls, and that there will, after all, be animals in the Catholic Heaven. It is time for rewards on Earth, too.

I have in mind no second-class "animal division" of New Year's honours. Facetious friends have offered suggestions such as CBE (Corgi Bravery Emblem) and KCMG (Kittens' & Cats' Medal for Gallantry) but I see no reason for a pets' apartheid. All creatures great and small, human or otherwise, should share and be eligible for the same different categories of award, from knighthoods down to MBEs.

It is far too early to suggest suitable recipients (and, besides, this will be for Her Majesty on the advice of her ministers), but if any reader is still sceptical, let him consider just a few examples of animals who might in the past have deserved, or might deserve in the future, a gong.

It is surely plain that among the many humble MBEs for animals, there should be a batch of awards "for duty and long service" to guide dogs. Hardly a labrador in service to the blind should go undecorated. (May I also include a personal bid here, an MBE for a now-aged labrador, Sam, "for years of devoted service guiding his master, Mick Patterson, home from the Duke of York"?) We must allow the Palace its quotient, and one would expect to read, for example, of an OBE to McTavish, gundog on the Balmoral estates, "for services to the environment". I suppose all the corgis would have to have CBEs. The ravens at the Tower of London would have been suitable for BEMs, but I'm not sure whether MBEs might not be overdoing it.

There would be showbiz honours — for instance to the PG Tips chimps — and a posthumous OBE "for services to tourism" to Belinda, the red-kneed bird-eating spider, London Zoo's most popular arachnid, who died this year. A number of snakes would receive political honours.

The equestrian section would teem with popular recipients. Obviously Sefton (the horse wounded by the IRA) who also died this year should have been knighted. Esha Ness (the 1993 Grand National winner) deserves an award for something, and one would expect an OBE or two for the Prince of Wales's retired polo mounts.

It is harder to think of obviously deserving cows or sheep, but a handful of MBEs to a handful of superproductive Daisies, "for uncomplaining generosity" might serve *pour encourager les autres*. And an honorary knighthood to Bill Clinton's cat, Socks, might help mend a torn special relationship.

Not many rabbits this year, but an OBE (posthumous) surely to that rabbit in East Anglia who alerted a sleeping family to the smoke of their burning house by scrabbling at its cage door, then, unfortunately, choked. I'm quite open-minded about recommendations for goldfish and budgies — perhaps for companionship to the housebound — but we would need to be convinced.

The question arises of how you would address a knighted animal? Some may think "Sir Horse" sounds ridiculous. No more ridiculous, I think, than "Sir Arthur".

I must, however, draw a line at animal peerages. There is a serious danger that furry creatures thus ennobled might actually take their seats in the Lords, and outperform its present inmates.

The Bishop of Durham should learn from the insights of a simple Saxon saint

Miracle-working for beginners

William Rees-Mogg

Now that he is close to retirement we all realise that we shall miss the Bishop of Durham. One of his predecessors was described as "a truly primitive primate", meaning a bishop who was close to the spirit of the early Church. I hope he will not think it offensive if I describe him as "a truly silly primate", including in that the whole range of meaning of the word "silly" — foolish, naïve, eccentric, innocent, enthusiastic, untouched by the wickedness of the world. His silliness has proved more powerful than the wisdom of many other clerics.

Who has done more to remind English people that the questions of religion are alive, interesting, important? He is the Church of England's light brigade; at the sound of the bugle he will always charge the guns. "When can their glory fade? Oh, the wild charge they made! All the world wondered." Those of us who have found something laughable about him also see that there is more than something noble in him. He loves truth even if his perceptions of truth may differ from those of other men. And no one can doubt that he loves God, which is what bishops are for.

The Church of England has always had its eccentric side; a Church which in the same century made Jonathan Swift a dean and Laurence Sterne a prebendary could scarcely be regarded otherwise. Over Christmas I was given *Messages from the Old Testament*, the well-considered sermons of another Anglican bishop, Edgar Gibson of Gloucester, which were reprinted several times in the early years of this century. "It sounds almost like a grim pleasantry to hear that so recently as 1829 there was a solemn attempt to supply the spiritual needs of Australia by making that vast island continent an archdeaconry of India." I am not sure whether that is a joke on the Church of England or on Australia.

What always surprises me about the Bishop of Durham is his fear of miracles. I am prepared, like him, to dismiss some apparently miraculous events as spurious or improbable. But I find implausible the idea that events which cannot be explained by the causalities of human science cannot have occurred.

That scientists should think like this is less surprising; the scientific way of thought is very powerful, and provides the intellectual framework for their working lives. Yet a religion is an attempt to explore the spiritual and the incomprehensible. When one is young, one is tempted to laugh at the formulation of the Athanasian Creed, which the Church of England used to required to be recited on *certain feast days, including* Christmas, after Evening Prayer.

"The Catholic faith is this: that we worship one God in trinity, and trinity in unity; . . . the Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Ghost incomprehensible . . . and also there are not three incomprehensibles, nor three uncreated, but one uncreated and one incomprehensible." It may seem to the critical mind of youth a bit much to have to believe that three incomprehensibles are in fact one incomprehensible. Yet nothing could give a truer glimpse into the nature of religion. God is beyond the comprehension of the human mind; human beings through religion start a journey towards the unknowable.

The opposite view to the Bishop of Durham's is that we live in a perpetually miraculous world, of whose operation science can only offer an imperfect account. Some favoured people have been given a direct insight into this process. We can learn far more from them, that is from the gospels and the mystical teachers of the major religions, than from natural science, or even from theology itself. Saint Thomas Aquinas, the greatest of the Doctors of the Catholic Church, ended his life believing that one glimpse of direct mystical experience had greater value than all his theological labours.

There is a great deal to be learnt from those who might be called the simple saints. The original Apostles were of this kind, fishermen, ordinary men, unlearned, unpolished. In modern times there has been the Italian, Padre Pio, who served in the First World War and died well after the second — he knew the present Pope as a younger man. Penguin Classics has recently published a new edition* of the life of an English example of this class, St Wulfric, a popular saint though not, I think, ever officially beatified.

If you take the road from Bath to Weston-super-Mare you travel north along the valley of Mendip, past Hunstrete, where John Locke's father was the steward, past Sutton Court, the one-time home of the Strachey family, past the south side of the Chew Valley lake, and come to the village of Compton Martin, with its fine Norman church. "Blessed Wulfric, a man of English stock and common extraction, was born [probably about 1090] in Compton Martin, a village eight miles from Bristol. There he lived and there for some years he served as a priest." The Norman lord of the manor was William FitzWalter, who was also lord of the manors of Beverill in Wiltshire and Haselbury in south Somerset, near Crewkerne. After Wulfric had served at Compton Martin, he was appointed parish priest at Beverill, and later transferred to a hermitage at Haselbury, where he spent the rest of his life.

The blessed Wulfric had extraordinary spiritual and psychic gifts. He led an aesthetic life of prayer. He foretold the death of King Henry I, and then told FitzWalter that the King had died before the news could have reached England; he foretold that Stephen would be King, and told him that he should repent a private sin, which he then confessed. He knew when his friends were dying, though as far away as Winchester; he knew when people would be arriving. He himself repented of having killed a mouse which nibbled his cape by a thoughtless curse. The mouse came out of its hole and dropped dead. He cured a monk of insomnia. He had "an angel-like simplicity". He fed countless people on half a loaf. He foresaw his own death. All of these things, so similar to what is recorded of Padre Pio, appear in the Life by John, Abbot of Ford, and that is not the only authority. Wulfric died in 1154 and is buried in the now over-restored Haselbury church, nobody quite knows where.

Rare as such gifts are, they occur frequently in the lives of the saints, often observed, as was the Resurrection of Jesus, by numerous witnesses. Psychic gifts seem to cluster round those who are very holy. In the case of Wulfric, the Somerset Saxon saint in the early Norman period, it is the holiness that most impressed people. They even told the Pope about it, as well as the King. I would not reject any of the miracles, even the mouse, but it is the story of Mr Brichric's son, a fellow Saxon, which I find most telling. He had to fetch something from Wulfric's cell, and on opening the door he saw a light of dazzling brightness over the altar. The saint was standing motionless before the step, gazing at the light . . . "Did you see it, then, boy?" "I saw it, master." "If you were here around midnight, you might often seen the like."

Of course that is all 850 years ago. The witnesses cannot be examined. Pilgrims did go on praying at Wulfric's grave for 400 years, but even the prayers stopped in the time of King Henry VIII. Yet there are so many similar events recorded, some of them occurring down to the present day, that I find no difficulty in believing that Brichric's son saw the divine light in Wulfric's cell at Haselbury. That seems much less of a miracle than that any of us are here at all.

*The Cistercian World, *translated and edited by Pauline Matarasso, Penguin Classics, £6.99.*

Putting their House in order

Parliament must end its raging inefficiencies, says Peter Riddell



The House of Lords has never quite recovered from Bagehot's comment that "the cure for admiring the House of Lords is to go and look at it". The same can now be said of the House of Commons. From the press gallery, MPs are not an inspiring sight. They are frequently stridently partisan, vacuously self-important or tediously long-winded. No wonder the anti-Westminster school is thriving. The case for the Commons as an efficient, let alone a dignified, branch of our constitution is not always easy to make.

MPs are trapped into habits from which they find it hard to escape. Reform is stalled because it is not enough in anyone's interests to change procedures. At the most trivial level, there is the raucous farce of Prime Minister's questions. The crude point-scoring and boorish jeering are privately disliked by many MPs. Prime Ministers and Leaders of the Opposition have tried to change the 15-minute sessions. But they have soon given up because both sides seem to expect their leaders to behave like macho champions. The arrival of television cameras has made little difference. MPs often behave as if no one outside is watching.

Many of the traditional methods of opposition are pointless. A week before the Christmas recess, Labour announced that it would no longer co-operate with the Government. This was because guillotine motions had been proposed to ensure that two Bills, on statutory sick pay and national insurance contributions, were carried through the Commons each in a single day. That was sharp practice, but not unprecedented. The Labour actions involved suspending pairing arrangements, whereby MPs can miss some unimportant votes, and threatening to challenge even non-controversial legislation. It made no difference. The Bills were approved. The only noticeable impact was that MPs spent more than two hours going through a series of votes, and twice MPs forced "I Spy Strangers" votes which led to abandonment of the business with the House rising early. I doubt if even many Labour stalwarts were impressed.

These are merely symptoms of a more basic question about the role, or rather roles, of Parliament. In *The English Constitution* of 1867, Bagehot listed five functions: the elective (choosing the Government), expressive (about "the mind of the people"), teaching (educating public opinion), informing (raising grievances) and legislative. In its primary function of choosing the executive, the Commons is, in Bagehot's terms, highly efficient in translating the decision of voters into majorities to sustain governments in office. The Commons also provides a recruiting and training ground for ministers, though offering too narrow a choice of personnel, as I have argued in previous columns.

HOUSE OF MONDAY

Professor Philip Norton of Hull University has updated the Bagehot analysis in his recent book *Does Parliament Matter?* His conclusion is that Parliament remains powerful in terms of legitimising government, picking ministers and ensuring that ministers remain accountable to it. The role of Parliament is, he accepts, less clearcut when acting as a safety valve, redressing grievances and articulating interests. There has been a proliferation of pressure groups as alternative channels, but Parliament retains greater legitimacy. MPs now spend much more time dealing with their constituents' problems. Many MPs say they derive much more satisfaction from this than from partisan exchanges on the floor of the House.

Parliament's oversight role has been strengthened by the expansion of the select committee system, imperfect and inconsistent though it can be. But the committees are a spotlight rather than a challenge. Parliament has only a marginal role in the formulation of policy or in modifying legislation. The Commons has not really adjusted to the shift in responsibilities to Brussels.

Professor Norton argues that Parliament remains central to the political system, but that it could do more. This is partly a question of resources, but more of procedures and powers. A Hansard Society commission under Lord Rippon proposed improvements in the preparation and scrutiny of legislation. Nothing has happened. Even modest suggestions from a committee on the sittings of the House for timetabling Bills and reducing late nights have so far been blocked by the conservatism of the Labour whips' office — despite proposals from party spokesmen such as Graham Allen for more radical change. Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons, is cautious by instinct and unwilling to push reform.

Apart from reducing ritual time-wasting, there are limits to what can be achieved. Much nonsense is talked about redressing the balance between the legislature and the executive, which ignores the primary function of Parliament in selecting and sustaining the Government. Scrutiny comes second to party loyalties. That is why British select committees will never be like US congressional committees, where the legislature and executive are separate, and often rival, branches of government.

Many students of Parliament, even including Tories such as John Biffen, believe it is necessary to go further: the root problem of the growing power of central government has to be addressed. Andrew Adonis, the author of the Liberal Democrats' constitutional proposals, has argued in his *Parliament Today* that the dominance of the executive has conditioned a Westminster mentality which has stifled virtually all proposals for reform of a more than tinkering nature. While central government has changed itself radically, other political institutions have remained weak.

The Commons remains more important than some of the absurdities of its proceedings suggest. Government still has to operate through Parliament. Any strengthening of its role in scrutinising the executive will require changes not just to its procedures but to other constitutional arrangements. But the stalemate on reform is likely to continue as long as the Major Government remains in office with a small majority.

Ackroyd's elbow

CHARLES DICKENS may have set the mould for the British Christmas, but his biographer is delivering an unfestive blow to the literary establishment. Peter Ackroyd, chronicler and champion of London, has sold his own archive to Yale University.

Ackroyd's decision is all the more surprising given his apparent dedication to the capital — his last novel, *The House of Doctor Dee*, is only the latest in a series set in London. And earlier this month he lectured at the V&A on "London Luminaries and Cockney Visionaries".

It was money that decided the matter. Ackroyd says he would have sold it to the British Library, but "Yale was the only one to make a proper offer". He will not comment on the price, but friends say he was asking for £55,000. Ackroyd adds that he is happy with the choice of Yale. "I studied there, remember."

Despite the connection, many will be surprised that Ackroyd, a wealthy writer, did not accept a lower price from the British Library or even donate his archive. Ackroyd's fellow biographers are split. Victoria Glendinning, who used Yale while researching her biography of Rebecca West, believes the world is a "global village" and that it "doesn't matter a damn" where Ackroyd's archive is.

However, Margaret Forster, Daphne du Maurier's biographer, says it is "absolutely maddening that another British writer's archive has gone to America. When archives are sold abroad there should be a rule that everything is photocopied first."

Omnivore

SOMETHING for Nicholas Soames to ponder while on honeymoon. The South Ribble Conservative Association, which has just published its first compilation of MPs' favourite recipes, *What's Cooking in Parliament?*, is planning a second edition.

The first made a mouth-watering read — from John Major's Mexican chicken to Baroness Thatcher's orange and lemon flan. For the second edition, now being compiled by Janie Ogilvie, Peter Lilley has already promised his recipe for fresh crab dip and Douglas Hurd his for gingerbread.

Most eagerly awaited, however, is Soames's contribution. According to Ogilvie, the generously proportioned food minister has promised a contribution but has not given details. His office, unfortunately, can shed no light on the matter. A spokesman says: "I don't know what his favourite food is. He eats everything."

Out on a limb

THE MARQUESS of Anglesey has made what is believed to be the first film about a false leg. Not just any false leg: the limb belonged to a forebear who lost his real leg at the battle of Waterloo, apparently while conversing with the Duke of Wellington.

The short film is one of a series highlighting National Trust treasures to be shown on television in 1995, the trust's centenary. "It's a very important piece: it was the first articulated wooden leg that was ever made," the Marquess explains. "Patented as the Anglesey leg, it was first advertised in 1916. As late as 1980 something rather like it was being made," he says proudly.

Führore

GERMANY'S determination to clamp down on neo-Nazis has claimed an innocent victim. The English edition of Robert Harris's bestseller *Fatherland* has been banned by police because it has a swastika on the cover.

Harris, in Germany last week to research his new book about the Enigma code, was shocked to discover that police had raided a bookshop in Hamburg and confiscated all copies. The police have also initiated legal action against the bookshop for selling a book which, they believe, promotes Nazism. Harris is astonished, particularly as the hardback German edition, which does not feature a swastika, has sold 80,000 copies and the offending English edition has been on sale since April. "I do not feel that this is censorship, more a case of mistaken identity."

The police are not alone, it seems. The German edition, reports Harris, has sold particularly well among neo-Nazis. "They probably thought it was all about a Nazi utopia. Actually, it is about the Holocaust. I hope they read it."

● *Notting Hill Housing Trust is advertising in* Ariel, *the BBC's house newspaper, asking corporation staff to come up with a name for the 16 terraced houses it has built on the site of the old Lime Grove studios in West London.*

DIARY

Frank Bough, who spent many a happy hour at Lime Grove as anchor of Nationwide, *believes he may have cracked it. "How about Dimbleby Dwellings?" Over to you, Sue.*

Flight of faith

FEW Christmas messages can have been delivered from as on-high as that of the Very Rev Eric Evans, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral. For Evans has become something of a dab hand at getting the message over at 30,000ft.

Earlier this year he appeared in an in-flight video promoting the cathedral to passengers travelling to London on Richard Branson's Virgin airline. Now he has been snapped up by Branson's arch-rival, British Airways. "BA has a video on its long-haul flights into Heathrow about what's happening in London over Christmas."

In a five-minute slot, Evans outlines what is going on at St Paul's over Christmas and New Year. "I quite enjoyed it. I was thrilled to be given the opportunity to say something to people coming to London. It gives one the chance to get to a large audience."





Rittner, left, and Gowrie, his former boss at Sotheby's

Old pals' act for the Art Council?

LORD GOWRIE'S appointment as chairman of the Arts Council has inevitably set tongues wagging over the future of the council's secretary-general, Anthony Everitt. In the past, a change of chairman has almost invariably resulted in a change in the executive. Speculation that Everitt's days may be numbered has been fuelled by Gowrie's association with Luke Rittner, Everitt's predecessor until he resigned in 1990 after falling out with Lord Palumbo. Rittner ended up as marketing director of Sotheby's — where Gowrie was until recently his immediate boss. "Luke Rittner did do the job extremely well in my view when I was there," says Lord Rees-Mogg, a former chairman of the Arts Council. "But whether he would want to return is another matter; he has got an extremely good job at Sotheby's." Not a bad job at all — Rittner is currently enjoying the fruits of his labours at Sotheby's on holiday with his family in New York.

PRESSURE ON PYONGYANG

North Korea must be convinced that America means business

On Christmas Eve, the United Nations Secretary-General walked into North Korea, across the demilitarised zone that marks an armistice now 40 years old. The two Koreas are still technically at war — a war that could now, if it broke out again, involve nuclear confrontation. Dr Boutros Ghali's meeting with President Kim Il Sung was disturbingly, if predictably, unproductive.

The unstated hope behind Dr Boutros Ghali's trip was that UN mediation might help to avert a second conflagration on the Korean peninsula. That risk, in the light of North Korea's suspected violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and its continued defiance of international law requiring it to submit to international inspection of its nuclear facilities, must now be accounted serious. But President Kim effectively told Dr Boutros Ghali to mind his own business. And in Peking yesterday Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, repeated China's opposition to the imposition of UN sanctions on North Korea.

These are needed now. Diplomacy must acquire teeth if Pyongyang is to be brought peacefully to heel. This last of the Cold War's frontiers is not only no closer to becoming a zone of peace. North Korea, an obsessively secretive communist dictatorship which has several times resorted to international terrorism, is the most immediately threatening of the new band of nuclear menaces. These are the rogue states, which so nearly included Iraq, which are determined to obtain nuclear weapons, and much more likely to use them than was the Soviet Union.

For nine months, America has been attempting, in so far unproductive bilateral diplomatic negotiations, to induce North Korea to open up its suspect nuclear sites to international inspection. Sceptics have long contended that North Korea is impervious to diplomatic carrots and is using the bilateral talks simply to buy time. The latest American intelligence estimate, which President Clinton is now reported to have on his desk, appears to bear them out. It concludes that North Korea has in all probability already achieved its covert ambition. The finding has the support of every American intelligence agency except that of the State Department.

If true, this hands Mr Clinton the "full-blown crisis" he has been hoping against increasingly gloomy odds to avert. North Korea's neighbours, from Japan and Taiwan to South Korea itself, have been fervent in support of a diplomatic solution — understandably, given the risk that North Korea would attack south if cornered. But if persuasion fails, all these countries could rapidly acquire their own nuclear deterrent. Nuclear non-proliferation, which Mr Clinton has rightly made his strategic priority, would then be a dead letter.

The Americans cite some progress over the past ten days: but no country with nuclear weapons has yet relinquished them, and the risks of relying on diplomacy alone are rapidly becoming unacceptable. More muscle is required. It is in China's interest to co-operate: but if the UN is stymied by a Chinese veto America should lead an allied economic blockade.

North Korea must be deterred from all thought of a military riposte. Mr Clinton has been advised that 545,000 American troops would be required to defeat a North Korean invasion of South Korea. Serious deterrence is incompatible with current plans to reduce America's total military manpower to 570,000. Pyongyang must be convinced that should diplomacy and sanctions fail, America has both the will and the means to end its nuclear status by force. Bobby Inman's first task at defence is to restore clarity to the murky US defence profile left by Les Aspin.

WELCOME TO GATWICK

Visitors must have the right to individual screening.

Immigration control is necessary, and a fact of life. Illegal immigration to the West is on the increase, and it is the right of every state to regulate entry of foreign nationals. Inevitably, it will be easier for some to enter than for others, and this is determined by legal, political, economic and, to some extent, cultural considerations. Race, on the other hand, is not expected to be a factor. The particular attention paid to a Jamaican charter flight, which landed at Gatwick airport last Tuesday, suggests that it may well be one.

Normal procedure for "controllable passengers" (Orwellian immigration service jargon for those without automatic right of entry into Britain) is simple. Once off the plane they present themselves individually to an immigration officer. Their documents are scrutinised and questions are asked of them. If the officer is satisfied that the passenger will return to his country of origin, leave to enter is granted. Home Office statistics show that 1 in 67 Jamaicans is refused entry, as opposed to 1 in 1677 Australians or 1 in 2014 Americans.

In the case of 190 Jamaican nationals among the 323 passengers on the flight, these procedures were not followed. Instead, they were detained for up to eight hours without interview or explanation. Many were later transported to detention centres. If, as has been suggested, there were grounds to suspect that many on board the flight were members of notorious "Yardie" gangs, and if there was the apprehension that others were not *bona fide* visitors, then the normal procedures would have served to weed out cases undeserving of entry. Those arousing suspicion could have been questioned separately, and at length.

There is no excuse for treating people as collectively, rather than individually, under suspicion. Routine practice exists for good purpose. It ensures — and this is important in a sensitive racial context — that there is no appearance of bias. This is an essential principle from which no derogation should be politically acceptable.

The action of the immigration officers was degrading. That it was Christmas only served to emphasise their heavy-handedness. Particularly uncouth was the refusal by airport authorities to share information with waiting relatives and friends — mainly British citizens — until several hours had passed. The Citizen's Charter makes no mention of airport authorities. It ought to.

The case should draw attention to the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993, which removed the right of appeal against a refusal to grant entry clearance. That was a retrograde step, both in principle and because the existence of a right of appeal acted as a check on immigration officers. A person can still seek judicial review, but that is far from satisfactory. An appeal would involve a re-hearing on the merits; judicial review would, effectively, only deal with cases involving procedural impropriety.

The episode has left an ugly aftertaste. It is still not clear who took the decision to "target" the flight, but the scope of the operation suggests that it must have been taken at a high level. The Home Office, which has been tight-lipped in this matter, must give a good account of its reasons. Why was the flight singled out for attention? What criteria were used? What were the suspicions? It is only when satisfactory answers are received, and made public, that the suggestions of racism can be put to rest.

TWO TURTLE DOVES



Like all animals, it is in man's nature to find a mate. But to live with the same creature of the opposite sex for a lifetime is a rarer trait in the rest of the natural world. Myth has it that doves are monogamous, but even they chafe at being too confined. Many marriages too suffer from one partner feeling constricted by the other. For some, billing and cooing will have turned into bickering and cursing in this season of what is supposed to be goodwill. "Let there be spaces in your togetherness," counselled Kahlil Gibran in *The Prophet*. Those who ignore his advice, at Christmas and in the other peak season for relationship breakdown, the summer holidays, may now be worrying whether their marriage is retrievable. Relate can expect a flood of calls in the next few weeks.

Unhappy marriages are nothing new. Literature is full of them, and of cynical views of the institution of marriage itself. Hear Tertullian: "It is better to marry only because it is worse to burn. It is still better neither to marry nor to burn". Or Shelley: "A system could not well have been devised more studiously hostile to human happiness than marriage". Almost every country has similar proverbs. The Arabs say, "Love is the star men look up to as they walk along, and marriage is the hole they fall into"; the Russians, "Marriage is the tomb of love."

Escape from an unhappy marriage, by contrast, is now much easier to achieve. Everyone knows the statistics: one in three marriages ends in divorce, and second marriages (Samuel Johnson's "triumph of hope over experience") are even more likely to do so than others. And women, these days, seem to be the most discontented with the married state. Seventy-five per cent of divorces are instigated by wives, and over half of divorced men later regret the break-up of their marriage. Surveys suggest that the happiest and healthiest people are single women and married men. Now that so many women are earners, they no longer need feel trapped in unhappy marriages.

But divorce has consequences that resonate far beyond the two people involved. Neglect or illtreatment of children is by no means confined to broken homes; in some instances, separation may be in the child's best interest. But as a rule, children are not only traumatised by their parents splitting up; they are more likely to divorce in their turn. Marital breakdown, like curly hair, seems to run in families. The cynicism of writers down the ages may be tongue-in-cheek; but the cynicism about happiness-ever-after of a child from a broken home about is corrosive and runs deep. Those couples with children who are tempted this Christmas to call it a day should consider that they may be bequeathing unhappiness to their families for many generations to come. And they should ponder the wisdom of Jung: "Seldom, or perhaps never, does a marriage develop into an individual relationship smoothly and without crises; there is no coming to consciousness without pain."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Wishful thinking' on Yeltsin's Russia

From Mrs Mary Dejevsky

Sir, In his article on Russia's economic reforms, "How the West encouraged Yeltsin in his mistakes" (December 16), Anatole Kaletsky sets out "defining moments in Russia's transition from communism", in each of which Yeltsin is said to have made a "flawed choice". In three cases the choices might well have been flawed, had Yeltsin made them — but he did not.

First, Yeltsin did not reject the 500-day programme for economic reform — hazy, jargon-ridden and probably unworkable though that programme was. The programme was scuppered by an alliance of Communist Party, KGB and army leaders (the same coalition which tried to overthrow Gorbachev in August 1991) who in autumn 1990 presented Gorbachev with an ultimatum: either you ditch the plan or we ditch you. Less than one week after recommending the programme to the Soviet parliament, he recommended its rejection. Russia then tried to implement the plan alone, but failed.

Second, Mr Kaletsky argues that Yeltsin destroyed the "governability" of Russia and the Soviet Union by trying to outlaw the Communist Party after the coup of August 1991. The Soviet Communist Party was actually disbanded not by Yeltsin but by Gorbachev (announced in a television broadcast on August 24), who recognised that some of its most powerful officials had been involved in the plot to oust him.

In fact, though, the party's authority — and its ability to function as a state administration — was already fatally impaired. The Soviet Union was already ungovernable.

Yeltsin's third "mistake", according to Mr Kaletsky, came in December 1991, when he "peremptorily decided to abolish the Soviet Union". It is absurd to argue that one person can "decide" to abolish a huge superpower. The Soviet Union was already unviable, economically and politically.

The Soviet government had been unable to get its budget through parliament and was technically bankrupt. The non-Russian republics gradually withdrew from the Soviet parliament, boosting their republic parliaments in preference.

On December 1, Ukraine — the second most populous Soviet republic — voted for independence by a large majority. On December 8, the leaders of Russia, Ukraine and Belorussia denounced the 1924 treaty which established the Soviet Union. Who but the successors of its founding states had the authority to dissolve the Soviet Union?

Whether Yeltsin's dissolution of the Russian parliament in October was a mistake or not is still a matter of opinion rather than history, but these points are a matter of historical record.

Underlying Mr Kaletsky's thesis appears to be a wish that the past two years hadn't happened. Well, untidy reality may be tough for Western politicians and economists to handle, but it is what we must deal with.

Yours faithfully,
MARY DEJEVSKY,
37 Ulysses Road,
West Hampstead, NW6.
December 20.

Broad brim but British

From Mr T. F. R. Jones

Sir, On December 11, in your earlier editions, you printed a photograph of Prince Edward trying on a Stetson hat presented to him in Dallas. That hat and its famous manufacturing company derive in part from origins in south Devon.

The Stitson family, later to become Stetson in America, appear to have been provincial hatters who emigrated to America in the 18th century. Stitson's Farm near South Brent, on the southern edge of Dartmoor, is claimed by its present owners to be the original Stitson family home. However this may be, the American arm of the family still retain a link with the ancient church of Modbury, between Kingsbridge and Plymouth.

So the Stetson is, after all, a product of British ingenuity, and it is particularly fitting that a scion of our royal house should be seen wearing one. Perhaps it will now replace both the bowler and top hat on formal occasions.

Yours sincerely,
TOM JONES,
11 Frensham Gardens,
Glenholt, Plymouth, Devon.
December 12.

Cover charge

From Mr C. J. Reddall

Sir, I recently had a review of my company's banking facility. To save time I combined the meeting with the bank manager with lunch, for which I paid about £40.

I have since received from the bank a detailed breakdown of their charges. Included therein was an item for £110, representing 125 minutes of their time for the self-same meeting.

Is that not a perfect case of having one's cake and eating it?

Yours sincerely,
C. J. REDDALL,
Reprographic Centre,
8 Bond Street,
Brighton, Sussex.
December 20.

Promises and choices at the font

From the Reverend Dr Nicholas Thistlethwaite, Vicar of Trumpington

Sir, I suspect that a good many parish clergy judge it appropriate pastorally to be less rigid about the setting of baptism than Nicholas Coleridge implies ("The wisdom of the font", December 20). The Alternative Service Book states that children should "normally" be baptised during the course of public worship on Sunday; but it clearly envisages occasions when the baptism service will be used on its own as well — what Nicholas Coleridge terms, incorrectly, "private christenings".

My own practice is to describe both options to the parents, expressing a preference for the former (and explaining why) but being willing to accept a considered request for the latter. It is all too easy for the "professionals" to forget that the request for baptism may be a significant step in the parents' own pilgrimage of faith. This may not be the moment to plunge them into the bewildering, and (for some) largely unfamiliar world of the Parish Communion.

What *is* important, I believe, is that children should be baptised in their local church. The Christian community can then offer that "help and encouragement" of which the ASB baptism service speaks. The growing tendency to try to have the baptism away from the parish where the family resides, usually at the church where the parents were married or where one of them was brought up, is to be strongly resisted — as it is by most clergy: but a determined grandmother can be extremely persistent.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS THISTLETHWAITE,
The Vicarage,
Trumpington, Cambridge.
December 20.

From Mr Philip Youngman

Sir, Nicholas Coleridge seems to me to be really writing about substitute parents and substitute aunts and uncles rather than godparents.

Surely godparents who cannot with sincerity keep vows or do not wish to keep them should opt out or ask the parents to opt for the thanksgiving and naming service on page 213 of the commonly used Alternative Service Book of the Church of England. This avoids the embarrassment of having to make vows.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP YOUNGMAN,
The Old Vicarage,
Melplash, Bridport, Dorset.
December 21.

From Mrs Ann Hawkes

Sir, Within the Church of England service of Holy Baptism parents and godparents agree to accept certain duties, and publicly state their belief and trust in God the Father, his Son Jesus Christ and his Holy Spirit. The priest states that:

> ... children ... are baptised on the understanding that they are brought up as Christians within the family of the Church. As they grow up, they need the help and encouragement of that family, so that they learn to be faithful in public worship and private prayer, to live by trust in God, and come to confirmation.
> Parents and godparents, the children ... depend chiefly on you for the help and encouragement they need. Are you willing to give it to them by your prayers, by your example, and by your teaching?

It is difficult to see how anyone but a believing Christian can honestly answer "I am willing" to that last question.

The main part of Mr Coleridge's article is concerned with the provision of expensive gifts and outings for godchildren. He is confusing the role of a godparent (who needs much spiritual but no worldly wealth) with that of a rich family friend.

Yours faithfully,
ANN HAWKES,
2 Vincent Close, Fetcham,
Leatherhead, Surrey.
December 22.

From Lady Huxtable

Sir, Nicholas Coleridge lists some of the effects of the Church's virtual refusal to perform "private" baptisms. Here is another.

When our children were christened we had a service at 3pm, followed by tea for family, godparents and friends, finishing with the cake and a glass of Champagne. This formed a pleasant rite of passage as the child was introduced to its human family and to the family of God.

Nowadays, most family services are at 10am. In order to attend, godparents, aunts, uncles and grandparents may well have to stay in the area the night before. The parents then have to provide the guests with lunch. This is very much more expensive than tea. In small houses fewer people can be entertained to lunch than tea. There is thus greater scope for offending relatives not invited.

It is not only for godparents that the cost of baptism has risen.

Yours faithfully,
MARY HUXTABLE,
Long Bank House,
Leyburn, North Yorkshire.
December 21.

Maxwell pensioners

From Sir John Cuckney, Chairman of the Maxwell Pensioners Trust

Sir, Mr Kenneth Trench (letter, December 17) quite rightly draws attention to the plight of the Maxwell pensioners, whose principal concern remains uncertainty over the future of their pensions. However, his letter would have been more balanced if he had noted that, through the efforts and contributions of the Government and the Maxwell Pensioners Trust which it established and for which it meets the costs, all pensioners have been and are currently receiving their pensions in full.

They should on present estimates be able to continue to do so until mid-1996, based on the present level of funds remaining in the trust. This allows reasonable time for the conclusion of outstanding disputes over the ownership of assets through a global settlement, mediation or litigation.

Mr Trench also knows, as was made public in September, that an initiative is being led by Sir Peter Webster, a retired High Court judge, at our invitation to attempt to achieve a global settlement. It was always expected that in a very complicated situation this initiative would take time, but progress so far is encouraging.

Should the initiative not succeed there remains scope for mediation and other action before the time comes when the issues can be resolved only by the courts and I shall have to consider making a further general appeal for funds, in order to enable us to help to maintain full pensions for even longer.

If this becomes necessary I can only hope for a generous contribution from those who over the years continued to have profitable dealings with Robert Maxwell and particularly those who failed to heed the Department of Trade and Industry inspectors' warning in their 1971 report that he was, in their opinion, not a fit person to be relied on to exercise proper stewardship of a publicly quoted company. I regret to say that my initial appeal achieved a very poor response from all but one or two members of this group.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CUCKNEY,
Chairman,
The Maxwell Pensioners Trust,
PO Box 14,
London SW1Y 4TJ.
December 20.

Put to the test

From Mrs Jane Crease

Sir, Perhaps Mr Fergus Hinds (letter, December 14) is on to something with his suggestion of a trial period of cohabitation. Perhaps there should be marriage tests leading to a marriage licence analogous to the driving test and driving licence.

From experience, I would suggest that map-reading while one's partner drives and putting up a caravan awning together, in the dark, are the ultimate tests of a marriage.

Yours faithfully,
JANE CREASE,
Old Carlton Farm, Warthill, York.
December 14.

Measure for measure

From Dr D. S. Skene

Sir, Every now and then reports in your paper suggest very little sense of scale when reporting scientific measurements. On page 1 on December 18 you reported the British legal blood alcohol limit (for driving) as 80mg per 100ml and on page 13 the equivalent French limit as 7mg per litre. This would imply either that French drivers are incapable after a few teaspoons of wine or that the British are capable after a bottle.

I dare say you would find supporters for either contention.

Yours faithfully,
D. S. SKENE,
307 Queen's Road, Maidstone, Kent.
December 18.

Every day is special

From Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, MP for Perth and Kinross (Conservative)

Sir, As a Scot, who enjoys the privilege and pleasure of shopping on Sunday, as we always have, may I be so bold as to suggest that all those who enjoined us to a load of sanctimonious claptrap about keeping Sunday special, and voted for it (letters, November 29; December 1, 8, 16, 18), should have all their services — heat, light, transport and all the rest — withdrawn every Monday, and of course no newspapers for them, because the folk who provide all these benefits have to keep Sunday specially busy.

For me, each day of the week is special and each day of the week has its own character. The campaign was humbug at its worst.

I remain, Sir, sincerely,
NICHOLAS FAIRBAIRN,
House of Commons.

Beset by dinosaurs

From Mrs Helen McGarry

Sir, My house is filling up with plastic dinosaurs. They arrive hiding in tea packets, cereal packets, fast-food containers and more. The creatures stare at me everywhere I look. Please, marketing managers, can we finish this craze?

Yours faithfully,
HELEN McGARRY,
21 Burford Rise, Luton, Bedfordshire.
December 20.

Keeping cars off the Ridgeway

From Lord Bancroft

Sir, The western part of the Ridgeway, many thousands of years old, links ancient monuments on the chalk downland of Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire. It provides, within easy reach of large centres of population in southern England, a heavensent chance to breathe the fresh air of the Downs in peace and quiet.

Being a byway, it is a right of way for all traffic, including motor vehicles. The question is whether they should continue to have unlimited access or only a little place in such a special part of the countryside. Mr Robert Key's own Department of Transport evidently saw the latter as a sufficiently cogent basis for the compromise proposal which it put forward for debate at a public enquiry last year. This proposal — a ban on motor cycles and four-wheel vehicles on Sundays and Bank Holidays only — has lately been rejected (report, later editions, December 9).

The minister has missed a rare opportunity to demonstrate that his department will not encourage ever-increasing numbers of cars to smother the countryside: that there are certain special places where the motor vehicle should be seen as an intruder. People may well ask, if there is no check on the Ridgeway, where is there to which we can turn?

The inspector at the public enquiry looked for evidence of clashes, physical interference, gross misuse, etc, and found the records inadequate; he also found that the case for regulation rested "too much on opinion and not enough on fact". He concluded that the case had not been made.

But surely it would have been open to the minister to take a wider view and to recognise that there has to be a judgment of value at the heart of a question like this. It is not a matter of counting the wounded. The opinions of people about what is proper are crucial, and so are the opinions of major national organisations with interests in the countryside. The Council for the Protection of Rural England, the Youth Hostels Association, the Ramblers' Association, the National Trust, to name just four of the biggest, were all in favour of the department's original proposal.

Substantial numbers of those interviewed in the 1988-89 survey mentioned, unprompted, some aspect of motorised use among their dislikes.

I do not doubt that in due course there will be another opportunity to get to grips with an unhappy situation, which can only get worse as the use of cars in the countryside increases. We must hope that it comes soon. We must hope, too, that the opportunity is not missed a second time.

Yours faithfully,
BANCROFT,
House of Lords.
December 22.

Riding safely

From the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire Police

Sir, The popularity of horse-riding continues to grow and a great many riders inevitably use the public roads. Many motorists take great care when passing riders but it is also true that most motorists are not familiar with horses and ponies and therefore sometimes drive past both too quickly and too close, causing real danger.

Whilst in many areas the accident rate is falling, regretably those involving horses and ponies on the road are increasing, and injury, at the least, to either or both horse and rider is inevitable.

Riders can do much to protect themselves. It is not surprising that motorists do not give them consideration to them if they ride near-invisible dark-coloured horses and wear inconspicuous clothing. Against a dark winter background this can be a real problem.

National research has shown that there is a dramatic reduction in the speed of passing traffic when horses and ponies wear highly reflective bands on their fetlocks. All conspicuous clothing both for horse and rider reduces the risk of accidents and it is particularly important in winter that all riders on the roads — both during the day as well as at dusk — "be seen to be safe".

At the same time can I urge drivers of vehicles to pass equestrians "wide and slow"?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BURKE
(Chairman, North West Yorkshire Branch, British Horse Society),
Newby Wiske Hall, Newby Wiske,
Northallerton, North Yorkshire.
December 21.

Price of progress

From Mr Peter M. Mander

Sir, The 5p piece is now of less value than the halfpenny was in 1939. Why do we keep the "copper" coinage in circulation? It is more of a nuisance than it is worth.

Yours sincerely,
P. M. MANDER,
7 Avenue Court, The Avenue,
Coulsdon, Surrey.
December 21.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
December 25: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning.
SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
December 26: A Service of Lessons and Carols was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning.
BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 26: The Prince Edward today presented the first mini bus for the disabled donated to Park House Hotel by KL.FM — the Independent Radio Station for West Norfolk — at Park House, Sandringham, Norfolk.

Birthdays today

Miss Anne Armstrong, American diplomat, 66; Viscount Astor, 42; Sir Gordon Brunton, former president, International Thomson Organisation, 72; Captain N.F. Crump, racehorse trainer, 83; Mr Gerard Depardieu, actor, 45; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas Devitt, shipbroker and former rugby player, 91; Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, 52; Air Chief Marshal Sir Derek Hodgkinson, 76; the Earl of Inchcape, 76; Viscount Knutsford, 67; Miss Pat Moss, former rally driver, 59; Professor D.H. Northcote, former master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 72; Sir William Purves, banker, 62; Professor B.R. Rees, former principal, St David's University College, Lampeter, 74; Sir Norman Reid, former director, Tate Gallery, 78; Dr E.C. Salthouse, master, University College, Durham, 58; Lord Sterling of Plaistow, 59; Miss Janet Street-Porter, broadcaster, 47; Miss Polly Toynbee, journalist and broadcaster, 47; the Right Rev A.M.A. Turnbull, Bishop of Rochester, 58; Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, former director, WRAC, 90.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Andrew Stevens, Rector, Chewton Mendip w Ston Easton, Litton and Emborough: to be Rector, Quantoxhead (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Ann Turner: appointed Team Minister, Marlbrook Team Ministry (Bath and Wells).

Appointment

Mr Justice Godfrey has been appointed a Justice of Appeal, the Supreme Court, Hong Kong, has announced.

Nature notes



The hooded crow

CARRION crows are courting in the winter sunshine: the male bows deeply in front of the female, fans its tail and emits strange notes that sound like gargling and chattering teeth. In Ireland and north west Scotland, the carrion crow is replaced by the hooded crow, which has black head, wings and tail, but a grey mantle and underside. A few hooded crows that have come in across the North Sea on the east winds are also scattered now along the coast.

Reed buntings have mostly left the waterside and are feeding out in the fields; in recent years, they have been recorded more often in gardens. In summer the males have a conspicuous black head and white collar, but in the winter these feathers are tipped with brown and look much duller. The brown tips wear off as spring comes on. Another mid-winter visitor to gardens is the blackcap; these are not birds that summered here, but are wintering migrants from central Europe. On London plane trees, the seed-balls dangle among the bows like Christmas decorations. Beech buds are like miniature spearheads growing alternately along the purple-brown twigs. Here and there, a solitary buttercup is still in flower.

D J M

☐ *The New Times Nature Diary* by Derwent May is based on a year of DJM's Nature Notes, illustrated by Richard Blake (Robson Books, £10.95).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.W. Hadrill and Miss E.G. Barrett-Power
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mrs M.V. Hadrill, of Cleeve Prior, Worcestershire, and Elain, only daughter of Senator and Mrs W.M. Barrett, of Suva, Fiji Islands and of the Gold Coast, Australia.

Mr G.A.R. Hayles and Miss A.J. Shire
The engagement is announced between George, son of the late Mr Andrew Hayles, and of Mrs Barbara Hayles, of Baydon, Wiltshire, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Shire, of Frimley, Surrey.

Mr B.G.A. Middleton and Miss L.J. Hayward
The engagement is announced between Bruce, younger son of Dr and Mrs G.G.A. Middleton of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, and Lisa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.S. Hayward, of Somerton, Somerset.

The Rev N.T.W Taylor and Miss J.M. Hanson
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of the Bishop of St Albans and Mrs John B. Taylor, and Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs David L. Hanson, of Ferndown, Dorset.

Mr M. Turner and Miss K.L. Turner
The engagement is announced between Mark, youngest son of the late Mr H. Turner and of Mrs M. Turner, of Scholes, Holmfirth, and Kelly, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Turner, of Scholes, Holmfirth.

Mr S.M. Webber and Miss R.J.S. Blackhall
The engagement is announced between Stephen Webber, RGN, eldest son of Mr, and the late Mrs Douglas Webber, of Porth, Mid Glamorgan, Wales, and Robyn Blackhall, FRCSEd, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Blackhall, of Raumati Beach, New Zealand.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Johannes Kepler, astronomer, Weil der Stadt, Germany, 1571; Sir George Cayley, pioneer of aerodynamics, Scarborough, 1773; Louis Pasteur, chemist and bacteriologist, Dôle, France, 1822.
DEATHS: Pierre de Ronsard, poet, Tours, 1585; George Barrington, pick-pocket and writer, Parramatta, 1804; William Jay, dissenting minister, Bath, 1853; William Armstrong, Baron Armstrong, inventor, Northumberland, 1900; William Archer, journalist and dramatic critic, London, 1924; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, New York, 1950; Lester Pearson, Prime Minister of Canada 1963-68, Nobel Peace laureate 1957, Ottawa, 1972; Houari Boumedienne, President of Algeria 1965-78, Algiers, 1978; Hoagy Carmichael, pianist and composer, Palm Springs, California, 1981.

Religious leaders' Christmas sermons

Carey provides a family example

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, described society as "troubled and spiritually malnourished".

Taking up a theme adopted in many pulpits over the Christmas weekend, Dr Carey appealed for modern families to adopt the pattern of the "Holy Family" of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to rediscover the purpose of life and existence.

In a powerful sermon at Canterbury cathedral, Dr Carey described a "deep spiritual thirst" among hundreds of young people he had met over the past 12 months.

He said: "What they so often lack are the basic building blocks from which they can develop their own spirituality. They do not know the stories of Jesus. They have not been taught the Lord's prayer. The lack of these leaves them rootless and impoverished. It is a challenge for us to face as a church and in our families."

Noting that next year, 1994, is the United Nations International Year of the Family, Dr Carey said: "Behind the debates and statistics lie people. I shall not forget the young mother I met in Birmingham, deserted by her husband but bringing up her children on her own. Or the courage I have seen in families facing the loss of their homes."

Children were God-given, he said. "Mary and Joseph knew all about pressure. Indeed, theirs were some of the worst experiences that any of us might have to face in life. Divorce, homelessness and murder are all elements within the Christmas story."

Every family knew of the pain and misery that divorce and separation could bring, he said. "None of us is immune. None of us can abdicate responsibility for what is happening in our society. We are all in this together." He added: "Every one of us can play a part in rebuilding a moral framework for our society, both by word and by example."

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said: "I think particularly this Christmas of the search for lost innocence. With our consciousness of a society in deep moral trouble, it is the innocence of Christmas day which grips the heart."

If "Back to Basics" meant anything, he said, it must mean "seeing our way through the murk and muddle of today's confused values to a few simple truths about human life, that we are made for God, and made for goodness."

The Bishop of Durham, Dr David Jenkins, who last week labelled elements of the Christmas story as mythical, told a congregation of several hundred at Durham Cathedral: "We have to be on our guard against people who tell us we should not raise questions, disturb people's myths or trouble their faith."

In his last Christmas sermon before retiring next year, he spoke of a threat from the "manipulative condescension of self-styled religious authorities". Such authorities said "people should not be disturbed — leave them to their comforting myths, legends and half truths".

Dr Jenkins said: "That makes them pulpit and pew-fodder and removes from Christian seekers their own responsibility and capacity to enter into truth. It does not make them disciples and pilgrims."

The bishop spoke of the "need to watch out for those pseudo-believers or scoffing unbelievers, who want to leave religious people in their special religious sphere". Their attitude was "by all means receive comfort from religion but do not bring it into politics, business or any of our real world manipulations of money, power, people and prestige".

Pope John Paul II, in his weekly Angelus message delivered to the faithful in St Peter's Square, stressed yesterday that families around the world had a duty to work for peace and said that husbands and wives must stay together and respect life from the moment of conception. "The family ... holds within itself the future of society," the Pope said. "Its very special task is to contribute to the process of peace." In references to divorce and abortion, the Pope said families were built on inviolable bonds between husbands and wives, and added that all couples should respect life from the moment of conception.

"It is of prime importance that the value of the family — that community based on the indissoluble marriage of a man and a woman — be rediscovered," he said. "The family is the vital environment where every child brought into the world is welcomed, beginning from the day of its conception."

The Pope said that the city of Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph raised Jesus Christ, was a symbol of family strength and solidarity. "Nazareth is the school of family life," he said. The Year of the Family was inaugurated with a mass in Nazareth yesterday.

In his Christmas Day message the Pope spoke mainly against the Italian separatist movement, urging Italians to stay united as their country faced difficult times.

William Rees-Mogg: page 12

JOHN GILES



Dr David Jenkins after his final Christmas Day sermon as bishop in Durham Cathedral in which he spoke against those who "tell us we should not raise questions"

Queen offers a message of hope

This is the full text of the Queen's Christmas message, delivered from the library at Sandringham House:

FOUR generations of my family have enjoyed the quiet and solitude of this library. It is still a haven of peace even if my grandchildren do their best over Christmas to make it rather more lively!

Most of the books on the shelves date from my great-grandfather's time and their titles reflect the life and events of those days.

Books are one of the ways in which each generation can communicate its history, values and culture to the next. There are books here about the statesmen, explorers, warriors and saints; there are many about war, especially the First World War, which ended 75 years ago. Families and loved ones of those who fought in it knew little of the horrors of the trenches, other than from artists' drawings or photographs such as these — often published days or weeks after the event. Nowadays stories and pictures from all over the world can be gathered up and appear in print within hours.

We have indeed become a global village. It is no longer possible to plead ignorance about what is going on in far-off parts of the world. Switch on the radio or television and the graphic details of distant events are instantly available to us. Not all the pictures bring gloomy news. This year has seen significant progress made towards solving some of the world's most difficult problems — the Middle East, for instance, the democratic future of South Africa, and, most recently, Northern Ireland.

All too often, though, we find ourselves watching or listening to the sort of news which, as a daily diet, can be almost overwhelming. It makes us yearn for some good news.

If we can look on the bright side, so much the better, but that does not mean we should shield ourselves from the truth, even if it is unwelcome. I believe that we should be aware of events which, in the old days, might have passed us by. But that means facing up to the question of what we can do to use that awareness for the greater good.

The simple answer is, of course, all too little. But there is another answer. It is that the more we know, the more we feel responsible, and the more we want to help. Those involved in international charity work confirm that modern communications have helped to bring them public support and made them more effective. People are not shunning the added responsibility, but shouldering it.

All of us owe a debt to those volunteers who are out there in the front line, putting our donations to use by looking after the wounded, the hungry and the oppressed. Much of their work never reaches the headlines or television screens, but their example should inspire us all the same. We cannot all follow them the whole way, but we can do something to help within our own community — particularly at Christmas, when those without work or the company of family or friends feel especially left out.

I am always moved by those words in St John's Gospel which we hear on Christmas Day: "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not." We have only to listen to the news to know the truth of that. But the Gospel goes on: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." For all the inhumanity around us, let us be grateful for those who have received him and who go about quietly doing their work and his will without thought of reward or recognition. They know that there is an eternal truth of much greater significance than our own triumphs and tragedies, and it is embodied by the child in the manger. That is their message of hope.

We can all try to reflect that message of hope in our own lives, in our actions and in our prayers. If we do, the reflection may light the way for others and help them to read the message too. We live in the global village, but villages are made up of families. We, the peoples of the 50 nations of the Commonwealth — more than a quarter of the world's population — have, as members of one of the largest families, a great responsibility. By working together, we can help the rest of the world become a more humane and happier place.

I am reminded this year of some lines from a Christmas hymn which many of you will know:

"Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light —
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight."

In Northern Ireland especially, these last years, fear has made the streets dark indeed. Now we have seen that the light of hope can brighten them. May 1994 bring to those brave people who live there and go about their lawful lives undaunted, the reward they deserve — peace.

I hope you all enjoy your Christmas. I pray, with you, for a happy and peaceful New Year.

Archaeology

Aboriginal rock art shares its dates with early European Ice Age work

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

ABORIGINAL rock art in northern Australia has been dated to 25,000 years ago, making it almost as old as any known from Ice Age Europe and some ten thousand years older than the famous cave of Lascaux in France. The date was obtained using a new technique that analyses minuscule traces of carbon incorporated into minerals in the rock.

The site lies in the Laura region of the Cape York Peninsula of Queensland, on the Normanby River west of Cooktown. Human occupation in the region has already been dated as far back as 32,000 years ago, although this is still some twenty thousand years later than the initial settlement of Australia.

Rock art occurs in shallow sandstone caves, and was created using iron oxide and kaolin pigments to give a range of red, yellow and white tints. The designs include humans and animals, and many figures are superimposed over older examples. The pigments do not contain carbon, and thus cannot be dated in the same way as those with an organic binder such as blood.

Alan Watchman reports in *Geoarchaeology* this month that the problem can be circumvented "by correlating the painted surface with an adjacent carbon-bearing lamination at an equivalent stratigraphic position".

At the Laura South rock shelter he collected samples and identified their mineral assemblages. Among the minerals present was whewellite, an oxalate salt which incorporates atmospheric carbon as it precipitates into permanent form.

Tiny traces of such carbon can be dated using the AMS accelerator method. Two laboratories in Australia and New Zealand gave matching results for several younger layers in the sequence, and the New Zealand accelerator placed an oxalate of the same age as one bright red painting at 24,600 years ago.

"This correlated age means that the haematite is Australia's oldest known pictograph and one of the oldest in the world", Dr Watchman says. "On a global scale the Laura South pictograph is slightly younger than those in the recently discovered Cosquer cave near Marseilles."

The French drawing is a stencil of a hand some 27,000 years old. The closeness of the two dates on opposite sides of the world "strongly suggests that human cognitive development in the use of pigment to leave marks on rocks was not only a European phenomenon, but was simultaneously Australasian."

Source: Geoarchaeology 8:465-473.

University news

Queen's, Belfast

Grants

The university has won research grants totalling more than £3.8 million.

The largest slice — £963,695 from the Science and Engineering Research Council and the Department of Trade and Industry — has been awarded for projects in the department of electrical and electronic engineering. The total includes the largest single grant — £318,135 from the Department of Trade and Industry — to Professor Harold Gamble, Dr Mervyn Armstrong, Dr Alastair Armstrong and Dr Neil Mitchell.

The faculty of medicine has benefited from a grants boost of £531,141, for research whichincludes studies on the elderly, colorectal, ovarian and breast cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, kidney disease and cystic fibrosis.

The Department of Economic Development's Industrial Research and Technology Unit has awarded £275,000 to Professor of Engineering Materials Roy Crawford in Mechanical and Process Engineering. The grant is to support the Rotosystems Centre — which is working on improving knowledge of temperature and other factors during the process of the rotational moulding of plastics — under the European Community's STRIDE (Science and Technology for Regional Innovation and Development in Europe) programme. Professor Crawford has also been awarded £200,000 from the Science and Engineering Research Council for research on the improved dimensional control of rotomoulded plastic products.

PERSONAL COLUMN

In all his promises the Lord keeps faith, he is unchanging in all his works; the Lord supports all who stumble and raises all who are bowed down.
Psalm 145:14

BIRTHS

AMES - On December 23rd, to Sophie (née Denham-Smith) and Alastair, a daughter, Isobel, a sister for Francesca.

BIERER-NIELSEN - On 18th December, to Sharon and Henrik, a son, Jacob Overgaard.

CANSDALE - On December 23rd at 11.55 am, to Joanna (née Holt) and Jonathan, a handsome son, Maxwell Walter.

EGAN - To Mandy (née Rider) and William, on 19th December, a son, Alexander William Peter, a brother for Natalie and Hannah.

GADSBY - On December 9th, to Jane (née Stockdale) and Graeme, another beautiful daughter, Charlotte, a sister for Elizabeth.

ISHERWOOD - On December 16th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Anneli (née Leckvert) and Michael, a wonderful daughter, Matilda Elizabeth, a sister to beautiful Edmor.

McALISTER - On 23rd December, to Lucy and Iain, a son, Alexander Richard Cameron, a brother for Nicholas.

NORRIS - On December 21st, to Margaret (née Parr) and David, a daughter, Felicity Julia.

SUBBA ROW - On December 15th 1993, to Laura (née Sweeney) and Alistair, a son, Thomas, a brother to Emily.

TANSEY - (née Rudalsky) at The Portland Hospital on December 16th, a beautiful son, a brother for Benjamin and Nicholas.

WESTROPP - On December 22nd, to Vicky and Harry, a daughter.

DEATHS

DAVIES - John George on December 21st aged 62. He will be sadly missed. Funeral Service to be held at Mortlake Crematorium on Tuesday 4th January at 2.30pm. Family flowers.

DICKSON - On December 23rd, David Rutherford, aged 76, dearly loved husband of Sheila. Father of Margaret, Maureen, Alistair and Jeanie. Funeral Service at Parish Church of All Saints, Barrow, on 5th January at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only please to L. Fulcher Funeral Directors, 90 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds tel: (0284) 754049.

GUNNILL - On December 22nd, in hospital, Mary Frances Gunnill, widow of the late Stuart Gunnill M.B.E. and elder daughter of the late Reverend Canon E.F. Goodworth. Sister of Hilary and Michael. Funeral Service 1 pm on Wednesday 29th December at St Andrew's Church, Horbling, Lincolnshire. No flowers, by request. Donations to St Andrew's Church.

LIEBESCHUTZ - Dr. Rahel, peacefully at home in her 100th year. Mother of Wolfgang, Hugo and Elisabeth. Grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral 1 pm, Golders Green, Thursday 30th December.

DEATHS

LINNING - Alexander, on December 22nd peacefully at home, beloved husband of Roberta, father of Mavis and Alison, grandfather of Sarah, Caroline and Christopher. Funeral to be held at St Giles Church, West Bridgford, on December 29th at 2.45 pm.

PATERSON - On Tuesday 21st December, peacefully at Keithworth Manor, Ansella "Milli" aged 84, widow of Lt. Col. T.W.F. Paterson, much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral to be arranged in Horne Parish Church early in the New Year.

REED - On 23rd December, peacefully, Group Captain William Stanley Reed R.A.F. (rtd). Much adored husband of Joyce, a beloved father and grandfather. The funeral service will be held at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Eydon, on Thursday 30th December at 12.30 pm. Any enquiries to John Ward & Son Funeral Directors, Church Lane, Bugbrooke, Northants. tel: (0604) 830438.

SALE - Ralph Stephen, peacefully at home in Cookham Dean, on December 22nd. Deeply mourned by his family and friends.

VENABLES - Harold Victor aged 92 (formerly of Mallorca), past master Alfred Newton Lodge passed away peacefully on 23rd December 1993 at Pinewood in Jersey, C.I., father of the late Denys Anne, much loved husband of Gladys, grandfather of Beverly, Vanda, Daryl, Miles and Rowan and great-grandfather of Samantha. He will be sadly missed by us all. Enquiries to Pitcher & Le Quesne Ltd., tel: (0534) 33330.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

WHITE-SMITH - In sweetest memory of my dearest husband, Sir Henry White-Smith C.B.E., December 26th 1945. Forever in my heart, Millicent.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

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COURT AND SOCIAL PAGE

Over the New Year period the following deadlines will apply:-

Notices to appear on Thursday 30th December should be received in writing by 12 noon 29th December

Notices for Friday 31st December should be received in writing by 5pm 29th December

Notices for Saturday 1st January should be received in writing by 5pm on 30th December.

Notices to appear on both January 3rd and 4th must be received by 10am 31st December

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OBITUARIES

ALEXANDER MACKENDRICK

Alexander Mackendrick, British film director, died in Los Angeles on December 21 aged 81. He was born in 1912.

ALTHOUGH he directed only a handful of films and, at the time of his death, had been inactive for almost thirty years, almost everything Alexander Mackendrick brought to the screen had distinction. He was one of the most talented of the young film makers who emerged at Ealing Studios under Sir Michael Balcon during the 1940s and his work, which included outstanding comedies like *The Man in the White Suit* and *The Ladykillers*, displayed a bite and intelligence that was rare in the British cinema. His films were, in particular, always notable for their fine writing and acting. His version of Richard Hughes's novel *A High Wind in Jamaica*, for example, was remarkable for the wonderful acting performances he coaxed out of children.

After Ealing, Mackendrick went to the United States, where he showed that he was able to tackle meatier drama as well as light comedy when he made a brilliant start with the acid study of corruption *Sweet Smell of Success*. But after that he directed only a few more films, made at irregular intervals, and it was disappointing that a career which had promised so much should have ended so early. Mackendrick was known as an exacting director who was able to match the taut dramatic structure of the stories he handled with great visual acuity.

Alexander Mackendrick was born of Scottish parents in Boston where they happened to be on a visit. He was brought up in Glasgow, where he studied at the School of Art, and during the 1930s he worked in advertising and made documentary films. In the Second World War he was in charge of an army film unit in Italy and in 1946 he joined Ealing Studios.

Employed initially in the art department, he later wrote scripts and made his debut as a director with *Whisky Galore* (1948), skilfully adapting Compton Mackenzie's comic novel about the inhabitants of a Hebridean island who unexpectedly acquire a cargo of whisky after a wartime shipwreck and have to conceal the fact from the authorities. Replete with fine detail, yet breathtakingly fast moving, *Whisky Galore* triumphantly managed to make a story which trod the light fantastic seem, somehow, wholly plausible. The film also enjoyed success in the US as *Tight Little Island* (1949).



Joan Greenwood and Alec Guinness in Mackendrick's *The Man in the White Suit*, 1951

Mackendrick's next film, *The Man in the White Suit* (1951), was sharper in tone and unusual for Ealing in carrying a strong element of satire. It starred Alec Guinness as the inventor of an indestructible fabric which is seen by both factory owners and textile workers as such a threat to their livelihood that they combine to suppress it. With a cast which included Joan Greenwood, Cecil Parker and Ernest Thesiger, in addition to Alec Guinness, it was a meticulously constructed farce whose pace and ingenuity never slackened. Yet, as so often with a Mackendrick film it actually addressed itself to industrial and social realities

With *Mandy* (1952) Mackendrick made his first dramatic subject, a sympathetically handled study of a family adjusting to the handicap of their young daughter who has been born deaf. Carefully wrought and almost documentary in tone, it is a film which has avoided looking dated even forty years on.

Mackendrick returned to comedy for his remaining Ealing films, *The Maggie* (1953) and *The Ladykillers* (1955), joining forces in the latter with the American writer William Rose (who had just had an enormous success with *Genevieve*). *The Maggie* showed the darker side of Mackendrick's comedy and after the film opened in the United States he wrote to *Time* magazine to rebut criticism that he had been unduly cruel in his depiction of the central character, a rich American tormented by the crew of an old cargo boat in the Clyde. *The Ladykillers* was another film that explored deeper tensions beneath an apparently cosy surface, in the story of a sweet old lady — marvellously played by Katie Johnson — who unwittingly harbours a criminal gang. Consistently inventive and perfectly paced, it has become a classic of its genre: the last, and arguably the best, of the Ealing comedies.

After it, Mackendrick crossed the Atlantic to make *Sweet Smell of Success* (1957), which drew fine performances from Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis in a scathingly effective look at the world of press agents and gossip columnists. But he left his next project, an adaptation of Shaw's play, *The Devil's Disciple*, after a disagreement with the producers, and it was six years before he directed another feature.

This was *Sammy Going South* (1963), which charted an orphan boy's journey through Africa. As in *Mandy*, Mackendrick showed great skill in his direction of the child actor and he confirmed this facility with children in his next film, *A High Wind in Jamaica* (1965) from Richard Hughes's pirate adventure. In 1967 he returned to the United States for *Don't Make Waves*, a satire on the rich playboys of California. But it was poorly received and with other projects including *Mary, Queen of Scots* and a screen version of Eugene Ionesco's play *Rhinoceros* failing to materialise, it proved to be his last film.

Mackendrick's uncompromising perfectionism did not always endear him to the captains of the film industry, and that perhaps helps to explain his modest output; but he still ranks with the finest directors that the British cinema has produced.

From making films he turned to teaching, and from 1969 to 1978 he was dean of the film department at the California Institute of the Arts, which benefited from his outstanding direction. After his resignation from the department in 1978 he continued to be associated with the Institute.

He leaves his widow Hilary and their two sons, as well as a son from a previous marriage.

TOMMIE CONNOR

Tommie Connor, songwriter, died at Farnborough, Kent, on November 28 aged 89. He was born in Bloomsbury on November 16, 1904.



TOMMIE CONNOR was the complete professional songwriter, who could produce, to order, lyrics on any subject, serious or funny, at the drop of a hat. Like many songwriters of his generation, he had no musical tuition and was completely self-taught. But this never slowed him down and, with massive hits like "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" crowning the charts in 1952, Connor reached the top of his career. He wrote around 3,000 songs in all. "Many of them displease me," he said, "but I know the public enjoyed them".

He was born in humble circumstances and left school at the age of 14 after elementary education at Macklin Street RC School, Holborn. His first stage appearance, at the age of ten, was in a rehearsal for England's first ice spectacle, *Razzle Dazzle*, in 1914. He began his working life as a call-boy at the Kingsway Theatre in 1918, moving to the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, in 1922 where he called for such stars as Ivor Novello and Gladys Cooper.

In 1926 he went to sea for two years on the *Empress of Canada*, before returning to London to a succession of jobs: as a porter at Covent Garden, a shop steward and an advertising salesman. Towards the end of the 1920s, with a job in a theatre to support him, he embarked seriously upon a song-writing career. At first, he received a good number of rejections from publishers but this enabled him to build up a stock of songs — something which would stand him in good stead when his career began to blossom.

Connor's first published song was "My Home Town", recorded in 1932 by Little Mary Hagan. This was followed in 1934 by two hits, "Jump on the Wagon" and "When the Guardsman Started Crooning on Parade". In 1935 Arthur Tracey recorded "It's My Mother's Birthday Today", a bestselling record even in those days when the principal medium was sheet music and by the late 1930s Connor had two Christmas hits with "The Little Boy That Santa Claus Forgot", (1937) and "I'm Sending a Letter to Santa" (1939) — the latter being first performed by Gracie Fields to troops in France. In 1944 Connor wrote an English version of the German wartime song "Lilli Marlene" (popular on both sides) which proved a phenomenal hit for Anne Shelton.

The war saw him producing troop shows up and down the country. It also provided him with the opportunity to display his home-grown bomb disposal skills. During the Blitz an incendiary bomb landed on the top floor of his house in south London. His reaction was to remove the intruder in a dustbin lid and bury it in the garden.

Connor's Christmas trilogy was completed in 1952 with his most successful title, "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus", for which he wrote both words and music. The song was number one in the United States, Britain and around the world and was the occasion for what Connor felt was his greatest professional endorsement — when Irving Berlin said that he wished he had written it.

Other successful titles included "The Biggest Aspidistra in the World" (1933), "The Spreading Chestnut Tree" (1938), "Till the Lights of London Shine Again" (1940) "Who's Taking You Home Tonight?" (1940), "Down in the Glen" (1949), "Hang on The Bell Nellie" (1949), and "Never Do a Tango with an Eskimo" (1956).

Tommie Connor contributed to over fifty film scores, his last commission being for the film *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly* (1966). He provided special material for many West End revues and the artistes he wrote for included Maurice Chevalier, Vera Lynn and Fats Waller.

He was held in high regard by colleagues in the business for his professionalism, and worked hard for the Songwriters' Guild of Great Britain which was established in 1947. In 1984 he received an Ivor Novello award from the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors, for a lifetime's contribution to the profession.

Connor was an excellent raconteur with a fund of stories, and one of the small band of men able to hold a fluent conversation in cockney rhyming slang. Indeed, in semi-retirement during the 1970s, he entertained himself by compiling a rhyming slang dictionary. His great relaxation was his garden which he tended meticulously and he ensured that there was always a winter rose blooming for Christmas day.

In 1931 he married Catherine McCarthy, who died in 1988. He is survived by their two daughters and three sons

NORMAN VINCENT PEALE

Norman Vincent Peale, American evangelist and author of *The Power of Positive Thinking*, died in Pawling, New York, on December 24 aged 95. He was born in Ohio on May 31, 1898.

THROUGH his book *The Power of Positive Thinking* (1953) Norman Vincent Peale was among this century's best-known American ministers, authors and public speakers. His gift for what Americans call "inspirational" writing and speaking led to the production of over twenty books, all with similar titles and themes, and to a career of indefatigable speaking, especially to groups of business men with whom he developed a close rapport. Although he had his critics among those who felt that his blend of theology and psychology was a trite one, and that the Christian message had, in his hands, become too comfortable and too materialistic a creed, he nevertheless wielded immense influence right up to the time of his death.

The son of a physician turned Methodist minister in Ohio, Peale was educated at Ohio Wesleyan University where he graduated in 1920. For a period he worked on the *Detroit Journal* before enrolling in the Boston University School of Theology. After graduating from Boston he began his career in the Methodist ministry in Syracuse, New York.

But in 1933 he moved to the historic Marble Collegiate Church on New York's Broadway. This was surprising because its Dutch Reformed tradition was different from that of Peale's Methodism but he quickly placed his stamp upon it and sustained a ministry whose prosperity was equalled only by its length until his retirement in 1984.

Along with his preaching, Peale organised psychiatric and other services at the Marble Church but they accounted only for part of his fame at that time, which was essentially that of a dynamic pastor. When his best-known book, *The Power of Positive Thinking*, was first published in 1953, it became an instantly recognisable catch-phrase. The magazine *Guideposts*, brought out to carry the same message largely by Peale and his wife Ruth whom he had met and married in Syracuse in 1930, was hardly less successful. He quickly became a prominent broadcaster and in 1963 a film, *One Man's Way*, was based on his life.

A success of this sort did not lack its critics. The academic and literary worlds dismissed Peale's teaching as banal and trivial. Theologians protested that it reduced the Christian message to little more than sales talk for a psychological technique of self-help towards the achievement of mere worldly prosperity, an objection which seemed to be confirmed by Peale's admiration for business success and his unqualified support for the Republican Party.

In Peale's credo, it was felt by his detractors, prayer might be constantly recommended but only as a way of harnessing divine power to human ambition, with no hint that the answer to prayer could call into question that ambition. Likewise, the Bible might often be quoted but only those passages, torn out of context, which seem to offer reassurance and bolster self-esteem.

Some historians have pointed out that Peale's teaching has more in common with the "harmonial religion" of the nineteenth century than with American Evangelicalism. This harmonial religion, which emphasises the benevolence of the universe towards human aspirations and disparages or denies the reality of evil has a long tradition of influence in prosperous parts of America and still finds expression in Christian Science and "New Age" teaching. Peale's achievement, such historians alleged, was to give it a more overtly Christian tinge and to adjust it to the needs and aspirations of those who seek material success in an industrial and commercial society.



These objections aside, what could not be denied was the extent of Peale's popularity. Few people in any walk of life can have had more awards and honours showered upon them by their admirers. From those given by the Horatio Alger and the Dale Carnegie societies through those of sales and advertising bodies to Rotary and especially, the Freemasons, the list is almost endless. The Presidential Medal of Freedom given by Ronald Reagan in 1984 must have seemed almost anti-climactic. Perhaps what came as more of a surprise to the academically rigorous among Peale's critics was the number of honorary degrees he received from respected universities.

Peale's popularity reached its peak in the 1950s and some saw him as a representative figure for the complacency of the period of Eisenhower prosperity. That is perhaps to oversimplify. The American Evangelical revival was then gathering momentum and Neo-Orthodoxy was influential in the main-line churches, reacting sharply after the Second World War against the "God without wrath" who "brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgement through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross." This was also the period of Reinhold Niebuhr's influence in Washington, and no one was a more devastating critic of "positive thinking" and of the ambiguities of power.

While Peale undoubtedly had many church-going followers and clerical imitators, what may be more interesting is the extent of the influence outside regular church circles. His combination of shrewd popular psychology and an optimistic recipe for success in terms people could readily understand, illustrated by innumerable anecdotes, made individuals feel better without much self-questioning. Even Peale's religious references were so generalised as not to be off-putting.

Certainly, evidence of his fame emerges in unexpected quarters. Mae West confessed herself to be a "positive thinker" and one of the best known strip-tease artistes of the 1950s gave herself the professional name of Norma Vincent Peale, although few of her viewers could have been pew holders in the Marble Collegiate Church.

Yet, for all their objections to Peale's theology and politics, his critics could hardly fail to be impressed by the personal vitality, generosity and good humour which he, with his wife, displayed throughout their long lives. No one could deny that he himself exemplified the power of positive thinking, even though he did little to extend the frontiers of Christian understanding of human nature and destiny. There are signs that, in the revived market economies of the 1990s, his influence is far from spent. His books were still being reprinted in Thatcherite Britain and were influential among increasingly prosperous entrepreneurs from the Far East in America. Astonishingly, at the age of 92 he had produced yet another book *The Power of Positive Living* and visited London to promote it.

He is survived by his wife Ruth, a son and two daughters.

Pyotr Grushin

PYOTR GRUSHIN, a Russian scientist who designed the rocket that brought down the U-2 spy plane flown by the American pilot Francis Gary Powers in May 1960, has died, according to Russian newspaper reports.

The disappearance of a high-altitude American spy plane while it was on an intelligence-gathering mission over the Soviet Union occurred only a week before the opening of a summit meeting between the US, the USSR, Britain and France in 1960. It gravely embarrassed President Eisenhower, who denied that the aircraft had been violating Soviet air space until Nikita Khrushchev called in the international media to reveal that both the plane and the pilot were in Soviet hands.

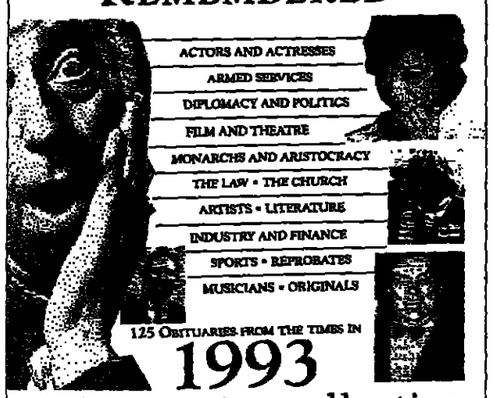
The Russian leader derided the American Administration's suggestion that the aircraft was a weather plane and produced photographs of Russian air-fields as evidence that its pilot, Francis Gary Powers was on a mission to spy on Soviet defences. Powers was charged with espionage by the Russians and, after a lengthy show trial, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. However he served only 2 months before being exchanged for the Russian agent Rudolf Abel in Berlin.

Pyotr Grushin was a member of the Soviet Union's top secret scientific community involved in weapons' research and designed planes and rockets for the defence industry for more than 50 years. He was responsible for the creation of 14 different types of anti-aircraft missile. During the second world war he helped develop bombers. One of his principal design successes was the rocket, identified as a V-750, which was used to shoot down Powers's plane.

But Grushin's name was virtually unknown in his homeland because of the secret nature of his work.

THE TIMES

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Latest wills

David Anthony Thomas Fane, 15th Earl of Westmorland, of Didmarton, Badminton, Avon, former Master of the Horse and Chairman of Sotheby's, left estate valued at £991,598 net.

Sir George Bowman 2nd Bart, of West Moor, Newcastle upon Tyne, left estate valued at £735,226 gross, net nil.

Mr Henry Montague Smart, of Eastbourne, East Sussex left net estate valued between £115,000 and £125,000.
He left his entire estate to the Labour Party.

Sir John Anthony Plowman, of Nether Wallop, Hampshire, formerly of Lane End, Buckinghamshire, Vice-Chancellor of the Chancery Division 1974-76, left estate valued at £564,323 net.

Lady Dorothy Hopkinson, of St Clement's, Oxford, the writer and lay psychoanalyst, left estate valued at £85,344 net.

Mrs Edith Ethel Williamson, of Chesterton, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £668,908 net.

She left £28,000 and effects to personal legatees. £2,000 each to Langdon House for Elderly People, Cambridge, and Cambridge Unitarian Church, and the residue equally between Manchester University, Cambridge University Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University Department of Pathology, Help the Aged, the NSPCC, RSPCA, PDSA, National Trust and Dr Barnardo's.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr Leslie Norman Draycott, of Henfield, West Sussex..... £829,690

Mrs Minnie Gadsby, of Snaresbrook, London E18..... £716,731

Mr John Alexander Gray of Lymington, Hampshire ... £653,139

Mr Alfred Munday, of Eastbourne, East Sussex £897,811

Mr William Thomas Oatway, of Belsize Park, London NW3 £728,151

Mrs Susan Costello Isles Parrier, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex £1,639,724

Gwendolen Kathleen Sellon, of Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex..... £641,217

DEATH OF MR. HARRY S. TRUMAN

Mr. Harry S. Truman was perhaps the most surprising President of the United States within memory. It was not just the unexpected circumstances under which he entered the White House in 1945, nor merely his fortuitous choice as Vice-President the year before. What did take his countrymen and the world by surprise was his remarkable capacity to grow in office, and in directions that were not to be foreseen in his background and experience.

He became a President of great decisions and routine failures. In the sphere of foreign policy in an era of more rapid and bewildering change for the United States than any similar period in her history, he met the challenge. There was the end of the Second World War with the historic decision to drop the atomic bombs on Japan—whatever the rights and wrongs of this act, it was determined by Truman on at least understandable grounds and he never wavered in judgment under the impact of later controversy. There was the reversal of attitude to Russia in the light of Soviet diplomatic hostility and national aggrandizement in eastern Europe. There were military aid to Greece and Turkey, the Marshall Plan and the establishment of Nato—all marking the advance from isolationism and for some of which Truman has not received his fair share of personal credit. The Point 4 programme inaugurated technical aid to under-developed countries. The Korean War, however unpopular it has since become in American mythology, deserves to be remembered as a prompt, courageous, and immensely significant response to communist aggression. Finally, there was one of the most difficult actions of all, the replacement of General MacArthur and with it the assertion of civil over military authority. It is an imposing record. Taken together, these initiatives set the pattern for American foreign policy for succeeding decades—and none was as inevitable at the time as it may later have seemed. In particular, that the United States did not, with the coming of peace, retreat once more into her traditional isolationism owes much to Truman's readiness to face facts as he saw them, acknowledge his mistakes and change course where necessary ...

Yet he never established with his audiences the rapport of an Eisenhower, he never commanded the eloquence of a Stevenson or the magnetism of a Kennedy. What he did possess was an enormous earthy relish for the rough and tumble of the hustings; he revelled in attack on a folksy level. That is why he can have had few superiors in the art of whistle-stop campaigning. As the pugnacious little man in battle with the giants of political and economic life, he somehow struck a chord of identification with so many of the American people. That is how he will probably be remembered—as the little man who rose to great places and did great deeds, but who yet remained an ordinary fellow with no aura of power, his fair share of faults and a few endearing idiosyncrasies ...

ON THIS DAY

December 27 1972

Harry S Truman (1884-1972) became 33rd president of the USA (1945-53) overnight at a critical time in world affairs. His re-election in 1948 is still a pollster's nightmare: some newspapers were on sale with headlines proclaiming victory for his opponent — Thomas Dewey.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY DECEMBER 27 1993

NEWS

Children 'need tougher law'

■ Virginia Bottomley was challenged last night to take urgent action to combat a spate of cases in which parents have left young children on their own.

Child care agencies, police and MPs demanded new child protection laws after nine children, one only a year old, were found on their own over the Christmas period. The NSPCC led calls for the Health Secretary to ensure that nobody under the age of 16 looked after younger children .....Page 1

Major backing for Yeo

John Major is standing behind Tim Yeo, the minister who has admitted to being the father of a secret love child. Reliable government sources say that the prime minister is said to regard Mr Yeo's admission as a "purely private matter" .....Page 1

Hostages freed

Four gunmen who seized a military helicopter in Russia and secured a $10-million ransom released the last of their teenage hostages and continued toward to Iran with two military pilots as captives .....Page 1

Weather deaths

Two deaths and a 19-car pile-up were among a catalogue of accidents as freezing temperatures, snow and floods covered much of the country .....Page 1

Visas predicted

Welfare officials predicted that the detention of a plane load of Jamaicans could presage the imposition of visas on people arriving from the Caribbean, like those required from the Indian sub-continent in the mid-Eighties .....Page 1

IRA tension

Security forces in Northern Ireland returned to full alert as the IRA's three-day ceasefire neared expiry and its leaders showed no sign of moving closer to the UK-Irish declaration .....Page 2

Power lines cut

Artillery shells cut Sarajevo's two power lines, knocking out the electricity supply, telephones and sporadic water supplies ...Page 7

North Korea 'bomb'

The CIA and other US intelligence agencies say that North Korea already possesses one or two nuclear bombs. Their classified assessment was immediately denounced by US State Department officials as alarmist. Page 8

Cup of kindness

Scots are being urged to reduce their drinking on Hogmanay and to join a £200,000 three-day public party that Edinburgh aims to make an annual event for the whole of Britain .....Page 3

Police in peril

Officers guarding Salman Rushdie, who share the author's danger from a suicide assassination, epitomise the perils of Scotland Yard's protection squad .....Page 5

Tale of two menus

Lunch served to London's homeless included turkey stew and sausages. In contrasting surroundings, customers at a Hyde Park Corner hotel found salmon, champagne sorbet and barbecued lamb rack among their choices .....Page 3

Princess missed

The absence of the Princess of Wales was blamed by onlookers for a low public turnout when the Royal family attended a carol service at Sandringham .....Page 6

Tarnished Mao

Peking's celebrations of the 100th anniversary of Mao Tse-tung's birth were filled with code meaning that, while he had been a great man, the Chinese were better off without him .....Page 9

Back to school

More retired people are returning to the classroom. The number of over-65s sitting GCSE examinations with one board has risen by a third in four years .....Page 4

Thatcher 'hates' 24-hour security

Baroness Thatcher has given a rare insight into her frustration at the high personal security she is still forced to adopt more than two years after she ceased to be Prime Minister. In a unique television documentary to be screened by ITV next year the former Prime Minister admits that she hates the restrictions on her personal life 1984 .....Page 1

NEWS TEAM



Flooding at Bewdley, Hereford and Worcester. Forecasters have given a warning that more rain is heading for the county (page 1)

Record bonuses: Dealers in the London and New York share markets stand to receive record bonuses on the back of booming share prices, with top performers netting over $1 million .....Page 32

Charity worry: The Salvation Army fears that a Charity Commissioners' investigation into a £6 million fraud on Army funds could damage its annual Door Knock appeal in February .....Page 32

Granada backing: Shareholders in Granada, the television to motorway services company, have officially approved at an extraordinary general meeting a £600 million takeover bid for London Weekend Television ..... Page 30

Football: Manchester United, unbeaten at home this season, avoided defeat against Blackburn Rovers when Paul Ince equalised with two minutes to go in the Premiership match at Old Trafford ..... Page 17

Cricket: The much-awaited Test match between Australia and South Africa in Melbourne was reduced by rain to just two hours on the first day, Australia finishing on 71 for two .....Page 18

Football: Jamie Redknapp is a young man with the world at his feet. In the first of four articles on the daily lives of people in sport, Oliver Holt finds out what makes the Liverpool player tick ...Page 24

Diet of danger: Dieting can be perilous. Dr Tom Sanders and Peter Bazalgette look at an industry that has grown fat by trading on fear and issue a warning: diets can ruin your health .....Page 10

Objects of desire: Once a Chanel suit, a Hermès headscarf or even an anonymous cashmere twinset reigned as the ultimate classics. What are the stylish symbols which define our time? ..... Page 11

Artist's nightmare: "There is something satisfying about the idea of Stephen King being haunted." Peter Millar on King's *Nightmares and Dreamscapes* .....Page 27

Love-ape relationship: All this week, *Times* critics will be reliving the birth of the century's great cultural masterpieces. Today, Geoff Brown reflects on the night in 1933 when *King Kong* first mesmerised cinema audiences .....Page 25

Comedy capers: Lynne Truss wonders why Christmas editions of sitcoms always send their characters on unfunny trips to hot locations but applauds *The Wrong Trousers* as a brilliant piece of film animation .....Page 26

Mad about the boys: The big rock show of Christmas was Madness at Wembley Arena: a stream of old hits was exactly what their loyal supporters wanted .....Page 27



Dominic Cork, who took three wickets in seven balls as England A bowled out Western Province for 177 at Newlands in Cape Town Page 18



The Bishop of Durham, in his last Christmas sermon before retirement, spoke of the "need to watch out for pseudo-believers" Page 14



Tim Yeo, the countryside minister, who has admitted being the father of a love child, has received the backing of John Major Page 1

THE TIMES TOMORROW

The advent of Jimi

■ "At late-night celebrity watering holes, Hendrix assailed musicians and journalists with a bravura display." David Sinclair relives the birth of a legend

Monster in the nursery

■ "It is strange that so fierce and even terrible a creature has been welcomed into the nursery." Bernard Levin on the bear's place in society

Thrill of the steeplechase

■ "Jump jockeys do it because, to a man, they are in love with their job, though you have to wonder why."

TV LISTINGS

The comics Reeves and Mortimer host four hours of sketches and vintage clips (*At Home with Vic and Bob*, BBC2 7pm) ..... Page 31

OPINION

Pyongyang pressure

For nine months, America has been attempting to induce North Korea to open up its suspect nuclear sites. Sceptics have long contended that Pyongyang is impervious to diplomatic carrots and is using the bilateral talks simply to buy time. The latest American intelligence estimate appears to bear them out .....Page 13

Welcome to Gatwick

Immigration control is necessary, and a fact of life. Race, however, is not expected to be a factor. The particular attention paid to the Jamaican charter flight this Christmas suggests that it may well be one .....Page 13

Two turtle doves

Myth has it that doves are monogamous, but even they chafe at being too confined. Many marriages too suffer from constriction. For some, billing and cooing will have turned into bickering and cursing Page 13

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

What always surprises me about the Bishop of Durham is his fear of miracles. I find implausible the idea that events which cannot be explained by the causalities of human science cannot have occurred .....Page 12

PETER RIDDELL

The House of Lords has never quite recovered from Bagehot's comment that "the cure for admiring the House of Lords is to go and look at it". The same can now be said of the House of Commons. .....Page 12

MATTHEW PARRIS

New Year's honours are part of the rhythm of our national life. I do not wish to abolish but to embellish the institution. I have a modest proposal. Why not a New Year's honours list for animals? .....Page 12

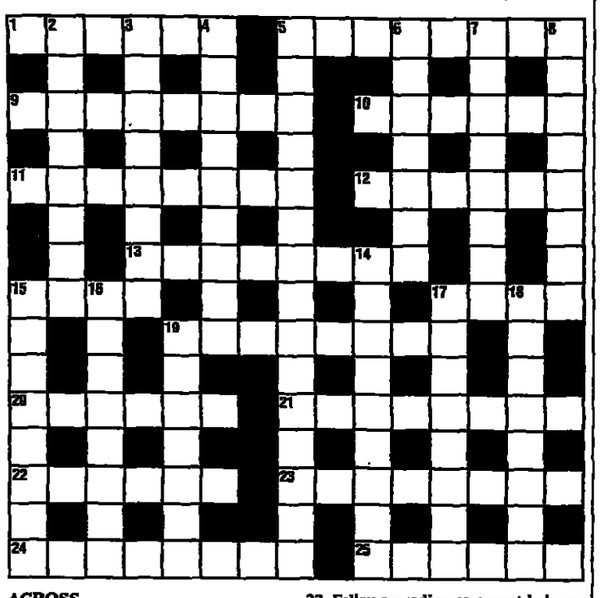
LEADERS

A priest and lay people examine the problems and opportunities of christenings .....Page 13

LEADERS

It's entirely possible that the Clintons have done no wrong. But the evasive tactics by the White House have fueled suspicions that there is something in those files worth hiding *The New York Times*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,423



ACROSS
1 Knife from north in standard silver (6)
5 Unmoved by City of Rapture? (8)
9 Old beast is around, limping (8)
10 Popular bird to keep in confinement (6)
11 Ready to return bill in places hard to follow (4,4)
12 Evoke memories of conscription? (4,2)
13 Building establishment providing accommodation for travellers in the main (8)
15 Head off moral fall in the church (4)
17 Arrested it is believed (4)
19 Youngster outwardly ready to go on foot (8)
20 Cashier to supply statement (6)
21 Decking sailors occupied in an action (8)
22 Fellows needing to accept help to get the girl (6)
23 Lack of movement during start of play nothing new (8)
24 Being found around old city? (8)
25 Overload when river vessel takes large number on board (6)

DOWN
2 Soldier infiltrating local volunteers getting up support for revolutionary activity (8)
3 After a short time tries desperately to repay debt (8)
4 Ranking achieved by university drop-out in degree success (9)
5 Pair he led astray dreadfully in Eden (7,8)
6 Stout container, say, could provide reservoir above a road (7)
7 Altitude marking extent of plane's rise? (4,4)
8 Reproduced article accepted under cover (8)
14 Charge giving admission to island and lake in grounds (9)
15 Dishonourable fellow one came unexpectedly across at University, say (8)
16 Shock American mounted force beginning to raid in the interior (8)
17 Sleepy fruit sounds a warning — it's not quite mature (8)
18 Like wood left on fiery base (8)
19 Vet in plain spectacles (7)

KNOCKANDO
The solution of Friday's Prize Puzzle No 19,422 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

Times Two Crossword, page 32

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

England and Scotland will start frosty, perhaps with isolated freezing fog patches, but most places will be dry with sunny spells. Eastern areas will have a few wintry showers at first. Parts of southwest England, western Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be rather more cloudy, perhaps with a little rain or snow. It will be cold over most of the country. Outlook: changeable but becoming less cold everywhere by Wednesday.

MIDDAY

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	7	45	r	Madrid	14	57	f
Alicante	19	66	f	Majorca	12	54	f
Alex'dria	22	72	f	Malaga	18	64	c
Algiers	17	63	f	Malta	15	59	f
Amst'dm	3	37	f	Melb'rne	11	52	r
Athens	17	63	f	Miami*	15	59	c
Bahrain	22	72	s	Milan	2	36	s
Bangkok	25	77	s	Montreal*	-4	25	s
Barbados*	29	84	f	Moscow	-5	23	c
Barcelona	13	55	s	Munich	-2	28	f
Beirut	19	66	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Belgrade	7	45	f	Naples	9	48	r
Berlin	1	34	sn	N Delhi	18	64	s
Bermuda*	23	77	f	N York*	1	34	f
Biarritz	6	43	r	Nice	12	54	s
Bord'x	5	41	s	Oslo	-3	27	s
Brussels	2	36	sl	Paris	3	37	c
Budapst	0	32	sn	Peking	6	43	s
B Aires*	25	77	f	Perth	32	90	s
Cairo	21	70	s	Prague	-1	30	f
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Reykjavik	5	41	r
Chicago*	-9	16	f	Rhodes	19	66	f
Chr'church	15	59	c	Rio de J	30	86	f
Cologne	1	34	sn	Riyadh	22	72	s
C'phgn	2	36	r	Rome	13	55	f
Corfu	13	55	t	Salzburg	-2	28	c
Dublin	3	37	s	S F'isco*	7	45	s
Dubrovnik	11	52	r	Santiago*	30	86	s
Faro	17	63	c	S Paulo*	20	68	c
Florence	5	41	f	Seoul	6	43	c
Frankfurt	2	36	c	Sing'por	30	86	f
Funchal	16	61	c	Stkholm	-4	25	sn
Geneva	1	34	s	Strasb'rg	1	34	c
Gibraltar	15	59	f	Sydney	31	88	s
Helsinki	-6	21	c	Tangier	15	59	c
Hong K	23	73	s	Tel Aviv	26	79	s
Innsbruck	-1	30	f	Tenerife	17	63	c
Istanbul	13	55	f	Tokyo	14	57	s
Jo'burg*	25	77	f	Toronto*	-8	18	f
Karachi	27	81	s	Tunis	11	52	c
L Palmas	18	64	f	Valencia	16	61	f
Le Touet	4	39	f	Venice	4	39	r
Lisbon	13	55	s	Vienna	0	32	sn
Locarno	8	46	f	Warsaw	4	39	s
L Angels*	21	70	s	Wash'ton*	3	37	sn
Luxembg	0	32	c	Wel'gton	17	63	c
Luxor	25	77	s	Zurich	-1	30	f

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 4C (39F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Humidity: 6pm, 80 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,015.0 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Scilly Isles, 7C (45F); lowest day max: Altnaharra, Highland, -10C (14F); highest rainfall: Marham, Norfolk, 0.16in; highest sunshine: Eastbourne, 6.4hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 2C (36F); min 6pm to 6am, -3C (27F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 5.4hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 0C (32F); min 6pm to 6am, -7C (19F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.9hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

AROUND BRITAIN	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.3	0.01	1	34	snow
Anglesey	0.1	-	2	36	cloudy
Aviemore	4.3	-	-9	16	sunny
Belfast	0.1	-	3	37	cloudy
Birmingham	5.5	-	3	37	sunny
Bognor Regis	5.9	-	5	41	sunny
Bournemouth	0.8	-	2	36	cloudy
Bristol	0.5	-	3	37	cloudy
Buxton	5.7	-	1	34	sunny
Cardiff	0.1	-	3	37	cloudy
Clacton	3.9	-	4	39	bright
Cromer	1.0	0.05	4	39	cloudy
Eastbourne	6.4	-	4	39	sunny
Edinburgh	0.1	-	-1	30	bright
Eskdalemuir	2.6	-	0	32	bright
Exmouth	0.7	-	3	37	cloudy
Falmouth	-	0.04	5	41	cloudy
Folkestone	5.6	-	4	39	sunny
Glasgow	0.9	-	0	32	bright
Guernsey	1.5	-	6	43	bright
Hastings	6.1	-	4	39	sunny
Hunstanton	-	0.11	5	41	cloudy
Isle of Man	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Jersey	1.4	0.06	5	41	cloudy
Kinloss	3.0	-	-2	28	bright
Lerwick	1.3	-	2	36	bright
Liverpool	1.9	-	1	34	bright
London	2.4	-	4	39	cloudy
Lowestoft	1.0	0.06	4	39	shower
Manchester	5.4	-	2	36	sunny
Margate	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Minehead	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Morecambe	2.7	-	1	34	bright
Nottingham	5.6	-	3	37	sunny
Penzance	0.2	0.04	6	43	cloudy
Plymouth	0.5	-	4	39	cloudy
Poole	1.2	-	2	36	bright
Saunton Snd	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Scilly Isles	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Shanklin	5.8	-	3	37	sunny
Stornoway	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Swanage	1.1	-	2	36	cloudy
Teignmouth	0.8	-	4	39	cloudy
Tenby	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Tiree	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Torquay	0.7	-	6	43	cloudy
Weymouth	0.7	-	3	37	cloudy

" denotes Not Available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.34	2.14
Austria Sch	18.83	17.33
Belgium Fr	55.87	51.47
Canada $	2.107	1.947
Cyprus Cypt	0.787	0.787
Denmark Kr	10.62	09.72
Finland Mrk	8.13	08.33
France Fr	8.09	8.39
Germany Dm	2.69	2.48
Greece Dr	366.00	381.00
Hong Kong $	12.21	11.21
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2579.00	2423.00
Japan Yen	190.00	183.00
Malta	0.620	0.585
Netherlands Gld	2.990	2.780
Norway Kr	11.80	10.80
Portugal Esc	270.50	252.00
South Africa Rd	5.80	4.90
Spain Pta	217.50	203.50
Sweden Kr	12.85	12.05
Switzerland Fr	2.26	2.10
Turkey Lira	21390.0	20390.0
USA $	1.592	1.462

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Thursday 23 December.

SUN, MOON

Sun rises: 8.08 am
Sun sets: 3.58pm
Moon sets 6.33 am
Moon rises 2.55 pm
Full Moon tomorrow

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

LIGHTING TIMES

London 3.58 pm to 8.08 am
Bristol 4.08 pm to 8.18 am
Edinburgh 3.44 pm to 8.44 am
Manchester 3.55 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.26 pm to 8.21 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun

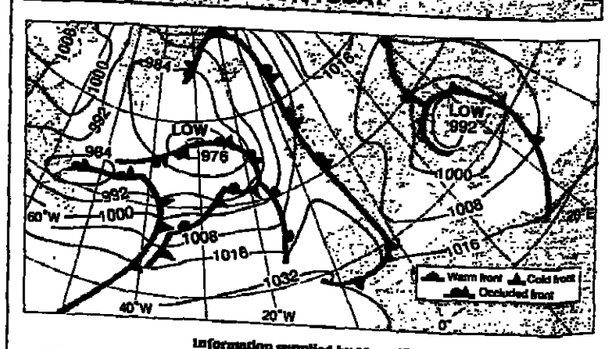
	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	1	34	s	Guernsey	4	39	c
B'mingham	1	34	s	Inverness	-2	28	f
Blackpool	1	34	s	Jersey	5	41	c
Bristol	2	36	s	London	3	37	r
Cardiff	2	36	c	M'nchster	1	34	s
Edinburgh	-2	28	f	Newcastle	2	36	c
Glasgow	-2	28	f	Rhl'dway	2	36	s

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.19	6.4	12.39	6.4
Aberdeen			12.18	4.0
Avonmouth	5.47	11.7	6.14	11.9
Belfast	9.49	3.3	10.10	3.1
Cardiff	5.32	10.5	5.59	11.0
Devonport	4.26	5.0	4.50	5.0
Dover	9.43	5.9	10.10	6.1
Falmouth	3.56	4.8	4.20	4.8
Glasgow	11.50	4.6	—	—
Harwich	10.35	3.6	10.58	3.7
Holyhead	9.12	5.1	9.29	5.1
Hull	5.02	6.6	5.23	6.8
Ilfracombe	4.40	8.3	5.02	8.4
King's Lynn	5.10	5.7	5.26	6.0
Leith	1.04	4.9	1.28	5.0

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	10.02	8.6	10.20	8.6
Lowestoft	8.09	2.2	8.30	2.3
Margate	10.48	4.3	11.12	4.5
Milford Haven	4.59	6.2	5.20	6.3
Newquay	3.52	6.3	4.12	6.3
Oban	4.30	3.6	5.00	3.7
Penzance	3.27	5.1	3.50	5.1
Portland	5.09	1.9	5.38	1.7
Portsmouth	9.58	4.5	10.27	4.4
Shoreham	9.53	5.6	10.20	5.7
Southampton	9.44	4.2	10.13	4.2
Swansea	5.06	8.5	5.32	8.6
Tees	2.20	4.8	2.46	5.0
Wilton-on-Nze	10.31	3.8	10.54	3.9

NOON TODAY



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هكذا من الأصل

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COMPETITION 23

Win a weekend in Scotland in our Aberlour Quiz



BOOKS 27

Nightmare that haunts the king of horror



BUSINESS 29-32

City celebrates all-time high on Christmas Eve

COURTS AND DRINK-DRIVE KILLERS

Law Report 28

THE TIMES

MONDAY DECEMBER 27 1993

Premiership leaders extend unbeaten run to 20 games with hard-won point against Blackburn

United draw on Ince's late inspiration



Ince, third from right, prepares to celebrate after scoring Manchester United's equaliser in the FA Carling Premiership match against Blackburn at Old Trafford yesterday. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird

Manchester United..... 1
Blackburn Rovers 1

BY PETER BALL

MANCHESTER United did not look invincible yesterday. It took a scrambled goal in the dying minutes by Paul Ince to extend their unbeaten record to 20 games and take them 13 points clear at the top of the FA Carling Premiership.

Ince's goal, scored from Sharpe's corner, left Blackburn protesting fiercely that the ball had been run out of play by Giggs and not a defender, but by then there were desperate measures all round. A sign of United's desperation was the presence of Peter Schmeichel, their goalkeeper, adding his weight to the crowded penalty area as United battled with the Blackburn defence.

"I think we deserved a point, because we were the only team trying to win the game," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said. "Once they got their goal they were quite happy to sit in there, knock the ball in to the corners and try to waste the game."

That did Blackburn less than justice. They showed scant regard for the Premiership leaders in an impressive performance. "I don't think we got the reward we deserved," Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, said, "but it's a reflection of how well the players have done in such a short space. We have played the team which is regarded by almost everybody as the best in England and more than held our own."

As a side which cost more than their illustrious hosts, Blackburn clearly felt they had no cause for inferiority, taking on United in every area of the field with rare resolve, the combative Batty and Sherwood winning the fierce contest in midfield, and Shearer and Gallacher ensuring that Bruce and Pallister could not relax for a moment.

Shearer for once did not score, but for effort rivalled Batty, and as United's pressure mounted he summed up Blackburn's determination, racing back to challenge Parker by the corner-flag with a tackle a defender would have been proud of. If anything

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	22	16	5	1	44	18	53
Leeds	22	11	7	4	37	25	40
Blackburn	21	11	6	4	29	18	39
Newcastle	21	10	6	5	38	20	36
Arsenal	21	9	7	5	20	13	34
Liverpool	21	9	5	7	33	28	32
Norwich	19	8	7	4	30	21	31

Batty, whose commitment earned him the man-of-the-match award, surpassed even Shearer's example as United mounted a siege of the Blackburn goal in the second half.

With Hendry's blond head acting like a beacon to attract the crosses as they flew in, it was a measure of their success that it took until the 80th minute before Keane forced Flowers to make a first serious save.

But if Blackburn took the honours, United remain on course despite a sloppy performance. Blackburn looked sharper from the start and their goal was no surprise. With Batty heavily involved, they were quicker in to the tackle, rocking United back on their heels, and keeping the home side under unexpected pressure.

From a free kick for the second foul in quick succession on Shearer, Ripley pounced to shoot over the bar, and as United looked completely out of sorts, the blue shirts pressed forward purposefully. Not even the loss of Newell after only 12 minutes disrupted Blackburn's rhythm and they took the lead four minutes later with a goal that illustrated their determination.

Batty withstood two fierce challenges and slipped the ball forwards to Gallacher. The Scot, who had moved inside in the reshuffle after Newell's injury, nutmegged first Pallister and then Bruce and stabbed the ball past Schmeichel for his fourth goal of the season.

For a time United looked completely taken aback and as mistakes proliferated on the frosty pitch, the Blackburn supporters could not contain their pleasure. "Are you Burnley in disguise?" they demanded as United failed to mount a realistic threat for half an hour.

But slowly United began to move with some fluency and after the interval they stepped up a gear, even though Ince was feeling the effects of a knee injury. "He was coming off at half-time, but he said 'Give me four or five minutes' and that stretched somehow to 45," Ferguson said.

That spirit surged through the team. At times it threatened to boil over as the exchanges grew fierce. Schmeichel once running 70 yards to add his opinion as Batty's challenge on Sharpe led to a mass disagreement, but when Schmeichel moved forward to pursue the ball from Sharpe's corner the breakthrough came. "We do go the distance and we persevered to the last minute," Ferguson said. "If any team is going to get anything here, they will have to play for 90 minutes." Blackburn got the message.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-2-4): P Schmeichel — P Parker (sub: B McClair, 75min), S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — R Keane, P Ince — R Giggs, E Cantona, M Hughes (sub: D Ferguson, 89), L Sharpe.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-2-4): T Flowers — H Berg, D May, C Hendry, G Le Saux — S Ripley, T Sherwood, D Batty, K Gallacher — M Newell (sub: J Wilcox, 12), A Shearer.
Referee: D Gallagher.

Results, page 18
Liverpool untied, page 22

Wimbledon go down with barely a whimper

Wimbledon.....1
Coventry City 2

BY KEITH PIKE

WHILE not suggesting for one moment that Wimbledon deserve any sympathy for their part in the affair, the evidence yesterday was that John Fashanu and his club have also failed to escape unscathed from the Gary Mabbutt incident.

The biggest scars, of course, are borne by the Tottenham Hotspur captain, who is continuing his recovery from the horrific facial wounds he suffered when coming into contact with Fashanu's elbow a month ago. But while Mabbutt was with his family in Bristol yesterday, the legacy of that collision was still apparent at Selhurst Park.

Cleared by a Football Association commission of enquiry on Christmas Eve of intent to cause Mabbutt injury and, therefore, any disciplinary action, Fashanu knows that the prospect of further proceedings by Mabbutt in the civil courts is real. Osvaldo Ardiles, the Tottenham manager, has promised to support Mabbutt if he decides to take the matter further.

All eyes yesterday, then, were on Fashanu, and the Wimbledon striker appeared to know it. He might as well have been wearing kid gloves along with his cherry-red boots. Fashanu put not an arm nor a word out of place, not once forcing Martin Bodenham, the referee, to penalise him. His one significant contribution was to play a part in Wimbledon's first-half equaliser, scored by Dean Holdsworth.

Both Fashanu and Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, declined to make themselves available for interview afterwards and Holdsworth's assertion that his strike partner had been unaffected by the controversy was not reflected on the field.

With Fashanu becalmed and several of his colleagues apparently brooding — Vinnie Jones was also a peripheral figure as his team was out-fouled 12-7 — Wimbledon lacked their famed commitment, and without that they are ordinary indeed. Even their supporters among the lowest Premiership crowd of the season were heard to urge them to "get stuck in".

If ever there was a time to play them, this was it, and Coventry capitalised to the full with only their third victory in 15 matches, and their first away from Highfield Road since the opening day of the season.

Mick Quinn, whose hat-trick that day scuppered Arsenal, was not required this time, dropped by Phil Neal after an Achilles tendon injury had restricted his recent effectiveness. "People might wonder what's happening when I drop my leading scorer, but it had the desired effect," Neal said.

With the inconsistent Wegerle a lively and inventive partner for John Williams, Coventry made the brighter start, Darby and Morgan going close from distance, and they deserved the lead Ndlovu gave them after 27 minutes, Darby springing the offside trap and Williams unselfishly sweeping the ball into the Zimbabwean's path.

Ogrizovic, whose only previous moment of concern had come when Morgan headed Ardley's free kick towards his own top corner, was then beaten seven minutes before half-time, Earle bursting through on to Fashanu's flick, evading Morgan and enabling Holdsworth to score for the fifth consecutive match after the Coventry goalkeeper had parried his initial effort.

Wegerle, who hit the crossbar, Ndlovu, who shot a whisker wide, and Williams, who failed to connect in front of an open goal, might have won it for Coventry in the second half before Williams atoned, punishing an awful error by Scales with the decisive goal 18 minutes from time.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): H Segers — W Barton, J Scales, S Fitzgerald, B McAllister — P Fear (sub: G Dobbs 45min; sub: A Clarke 74), V Jones, R Earle, N Ardley — J Fashanu, D Holdsworth.
COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — B Borrows, P Atherton, P Babb, S Morgan — P Ndlovu, C Marsden, J Darby, S Flynn — J Williams, R Wegerle.
Referee: M Bodenham.

Holiday sports gets case of frost bite

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

FREEZING weather in the northern half of England and in Scotland has reduced the holiday football, racing and rugby programmes.

Yesterday's third division match between Rochdale and Scarborough was postponed, and in the same division the Shrewsbury v Lincoln game tomorrow has already been called off.

In Scotland four of the 19 matches scheduled today are certain to go ahead, thanks to under-soil heating at Tannadice (Dundee United v Aberdeen), Easter Road (Hibernian v Partick), Ibrox (Rangers v Hearts) and Hampden Park (Queen's Park v Alloa). But a frostbound pitch has put paid to the match between the joint premier division leaders, Motherwell, and Celtic at Fir Park. The rest of the Scottish programme faces pitch inspections this morning.

In rugby league the match yesterday between Widnes and Warrington fell victim to the weather, as did six of the seven second division games. Two of yesterday's three rugby union matches were cancelled and several today are in doubt.

Snow has forced the cancellation of racing at Sedgefield today, and others of the remaining nine meetings may be called off after inspections this morning.

A small consolation: unfavourable weather is not confined to the British Isles, as rain restricted play to two hours on the opening day of the first Test match between Australia and South Africa in Melbourne.

Dewsbury decline to play derby

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

RELATIONS have been anything but cordial at Mount Pleasant, home to both Batley and Dewsbury rugby league clubs. The local rivalry, in Yorkshire's heavy woollen country, may not have the fierce intensity of that between Wigan and St Helens, but matters reached a new low yesterday.

Even though the clubs have shared the same ground for three years — Dewsbury hope to move to a new stadium next year — their derby matches still inflame local passions and a crowd of 2,000 was expected at yesterday's second division meeting. True, the weather was hardly encouraging but, in spite of snow and ice and a delay in the lunchtime kick-off of 90 minutes, Batley were ready to play, as was the referee.

Dewsbury were not. After carrying out an inspection, club officials said they were unhappy about the state of the pitch and refused to appear. The Dewsbury chairman, Rodney Hardcastle, maintained that the pitch was rutted, frozen and too dangerous for players to be risked on.

There was little sympathy for his view from his opposite number at Batley, Stephen Ball. "I am deeply sorry for the spectators, but there was nothing Batley could do about it," he said.

With the battering it takes from two clubs, the groundsman's lot at Mount Pleasant is not the happiest one, particularly in bad weather, and as the pitch slopes away down a hillside towards the town of Batley.

Nor is this the first time that the pitch has caused problems. Last January, Hunslet refused to play Batley there and were fined £1,000.

Under the rules of the Rugby Football League, the referee's ruling is final. Yesterday, the referee, David Atkin, of Hull, ruled that the Mount Pleasant pitch was "perfectly playable".

Having rejected his instructions to play the game, Dewsbury must face a disciplinary hearing before the League. "We know full well what we have done. We shall have to let the Rugby League decide the outcome," Hardcastle said.

Ball was unimpressed: "It is obvious that the small fine imposed then has not deterred other clubs from considering themselves above the rules of the Rugby League," he said. The teams will try to play the match today — weather permitting.

Wigan's championship match did go ahead — in the end — and they beat St Helens 40-8 to go top of the first division. The match nearly did not take place because, over the holiday period, the timer on the Central Park undersoil heating system was wrongly set. Instead of switching itself on on Christmas day evening, it only burst into life yesterday morning.

With virtually half the pitch under frost and ice, St Helens asked for a postponement. However, they complied with the ruling by the referee, John Holdsworth, that it should go ahead. The outcome was defeat by seven tries to one.

Va'aiga Tuigamala may make his Wigan debut in the reserve side early in the new year. The All Black has been pencilled in for an Alliance Challenge Cup first-round tie against Swinton at Central Park on January 7.

Results and tables, page 18
Magnificent Wigan, page 23

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Australia struggle as Donald hits form

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

FEW Test match days have enjoyed the fanfare given to this one, or suffered its anti-climax. Melbourne's fickle weather wrecked the resumption of proper cricketing relations between Australia and South Africa, reducing the heady prospect of a feast for 70,000 to the frugality of two windswept hours in an echoingly empty stadium.

The heavy rain that fell in the morning cost the South Africans the greatest occasion since their return to the fold. It cost the Australian Cricket Board much more materially — several hundred thousand dollars in lost revenue. But if the traditional tingling spines and tinkling tills of Boxing Day here were missing, this momentous game need not necessarily be bound for oblivion.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M A Taylor not out	30
M J Slater c Kirsten b Donald	32
S K Warne lbw b de Villiers	0
D C Boon not out	4
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 2)	5
Total (2 wkts)	71

M E Waugh, *A R Border, D R Martyn, †I A Healy, P R Reiffel, T B A May and C J McDermott to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-58.

BOWLING: Donald 8-1-21-1; de Villiers 9-1-30-1; Matthews 6-2-6-0; Cronje 5-3-11-0.

SOUTH AFRICA: *K C Wessels, A C Hudson, W J Cronje, D J Cullinan, J N Rhodes, G Kirsten, †D J Richardson, P L Symcox, C R Matthews, P S de Villiers, A A Donald

Umpires: D B Hair and T C Prue.

Such play as was possible between the hours of 5 and 7pm confirmed the popular suspicion that this will not be a five-day pitch. Australia lost two wickets; it could have been several more. The pace and bounce for the quicker bowlers were strikingly uneven, yet both captains agree that spin will be decisive. There is fascinating cricket ahead, if the climate allows.

Allan Donald came into the match without the form to support his reputation but, thanks to his big-occasion temperament, his focus remained. After six overs he was wicketless and distraught, for with any measure of justice he would have removed the Australian openers.

The fifth ball of his second spell finally divided them and when Fanie de Villiers, making his Test debut at 29, hit Shane Warne, the nightwatchman, on the shin from short of a length, it was suddenly South Africa who were keen to play on through another squally shower.

More serious rain, however, had done its worst much earlier. Many of those who played in the last series between these countries, 24 years ago, were having breakfast together near the ground when the heavens opened. They soon knew they could linger long over their meal, for a prompt start would have been impossible even if the bowlers' run-ups had not bafflingly been left uncovered.

This was the latest of several embarrassments for the Melbourne club, most of them emanating from a series of Madonna concerts in October which left the outfield in a shabby state. Pitch conditions are less easily explained and the trend of unreliable bounce evident here all season is already apparent.

A crowd of 15,604 was announced as the captains tossed up. Even this figure was a distortion, many having given up and gone home, and it was far from the atmosphere envisaged either by Allan Border, in probably his final Test on the ground, or Kepler Wessels, returning to his second home. Border chose to bat, balancing the risk of early movement against the certainty of later turn. Wessels said he would have done the same.

Without the injured Brett Schultz, such an influence against Sri Lanka, South Africa depended even more on Donald for the roughing-up of a serenely confident Australian batting side. Inside his first over, he had punctured a couple of egos. Mark Taylor was fortunate to survive an appeal for leg-before second ball and when Michael Slater was left one ball to face, it squared him up and thumped into his exposed pads.

This was the early pattern. Taylor played like a man in dire form, which he is not, while time and again the fidgety Slater was left exposed by Donald's outswing. He had not scored when a loose drive flew through Daryll Cullinan's fingertips at second slip, and he had made 18 when the same man put down a straightforward chance at waist height. Donald looked as if he was about to explode.

Slater had reached 32 out of 57 when Donald, grabbing the ball purposefully for a final assault, turned him round again and the catch looped to short leg off inside edge and thigh pad. Warne then lasted only two balls.

He left casting unworthy glares at the umpire when his attention might have been better directed towards the pitch. A year ago, Warne took seven West Indies wickets here, the launch of a shooting star. His stature is now so lofty that he is widely expected to do even better this week.



Donald, the South Africa fast bowler, appeals in vain for leg-before against Taylor in Melbourne yesterday

Pakistan double in one-day games

PAKISTAN beat a spirited Zimbabwe with two balls to spare in the second one-day international, at Rawalpindi on Saturday, to take a 2-0 lead in the three-match series. The final match is in Lahore today.

Pakistan won with six wickets in hand, but Zimbabwe were much better than in their seven-wicket defeat in the first match in Karachi.

Sent in to bat, Zimbabwe made 195 for five in their 40 overs. They lost Andy Flower, their captain, in the seventh over for 14, but Mark Dekker and Alistair Campbell batted steadily to prevent a repeat of the previous day's collapse. They added 57 for the second wicket before Dekker was bowled by Nazir for 23.

David Houghton joined Campbell and the run-rate immediately increased. They completed a 102-run partnership in only 15 overs. Houghton took the leading role and scoring 58 from 49 balls to become the first Zimbabwean to reach 1,000 runs in one-day internationals. Campbell, dropped at gully by Javed Miandad when he had made only two, was the top scorer with 74.

An 88-run opening partnership between Asif Mujtaba (61) and Saeed Anwar (45) got Pakistan off to a solid start. Mujtaba played the sheet-anchor role and lasted until the penultimate over.

Basit Ali and Miandad were dismissed cheaply, but some fine hitting by Inzamam-ul-Haq, who made an unbeaten 44, saw Pakistan home with 196 for four.

In Friday's match the Zimbabweans were destroyed by the speed of Wasim Akram, who took five for 15, beginning with the first-ball dismissal of Flower, his rival captain. That Zimbabwe managed to reach 143 all out was mainly due to a 70-run stand between Houghton, out for 52, and Dekker, run out on 33. Before them three wickets went for a mere 22 runs and after them the remaining five batsmen collected just 26 runs.

Pakistan, helped by a forceful 68 from left-handed opener Saeed Anwar, romped to their target of 144 with 6.1 overs to spare.

Cork breaks through to pave way for England A

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN CAPE TOWN

NO PROBLEM is insurmountable for England A at the moment. Hugh Morris lost his third successive first-class toss yesterday morning at Newlands, yet his team, deprived of its two quickest bowlers, reached stumps in a comfortable position after Western Province, who were 118 for two shortly before tea, were bowled out for 177.

England are not yet on top; nor are they behind. They put down 74 bricks on their first-innings road last night, and resume with Crawley and Wells at the crease. Lathwell, on his 22nd birthday, poor lad, was leg-before when Martyn, the left-armer, straightened one. Morris, who is still troubled by his swollen knee, followed one which Simons, the Western Province captain, drifted across him in his first over.

All day a stiff south-easterly breeze blew round this redeveloped ground. In the afternoon Table Mountain, which provides Newlands with such a striking frame, was only two-fifths visible. The cable car does not run on such days, and you do not have to convene the Brains Trust to see why. At such times the bone-rattling wind rivals Fleetwood.

Indeed, there is a small colony of English cricketers, past and present, in the Cape. Roger Prideaux, Robin Jackman, Graham Barlow and Bob Woolmer live here. Others, like Neil Burns, the Somerset wicketkeeper, are wintering warmly. Phillip DeFreitas is making runs for Boland, the clearest proof that South Africans can refresh the parts his English peers cannot reach.

Another arrival is the groundsman, Andy Atkinson, who left Warwickshire in August after the fifth Test against Australia. Although Warwickshire permit Woolmer, their cricket manager, to commute between Cape Town and Edgbaston, they would not extend the facility to Atkinson.

Off the field an imposing new stadium is taking shape. It is a hotch-potch at the moment as the new stands and floodlights, which cost £4 million, look down on the 23 wooden chalets by the railway boundary, lending Newlands a rather quaint feel.

Atkinson has left more grass on this pitch than the batsmen might have expected. The ball went through at a fair pace, not a startling one, and without the lateral distortion such pitches can offer. Koenig and Jordaan experienced few problems in making 63 when the ball was new.

McCague, who played at Port Elizabeth, is resting a side strain here. Bicknell, whose appearance in the one-day game at Langa was his first for two weeks, has not recovered fully from his rib injury and has taken no part in any of the first-class cricket on this tour. If he does not play against Natal at Durban next week, Phil Neale and Bob Bennett must review his situation.

Even when he is restored to full fitness, Bicknell will have to earn his place. Ilott, Cork and Gough each took three wickets, Cork's being the most telling contribution when he ripped out three men, including Kuiper, first ball, inside two overs before tea.

Cork lacks genuine pace, although he can bowl a slippery bouncer, so it is essential that he keeps the ball up to the bat. In his first spell he was striving too much for effect — he bowled 11 no-balls during the day — and it was only when he returned that the batsmen found themselves groping at balls that either left them late or nipped back.

Cork was an emerging teenager when Kuiper spent a summer with Derbyshire in 1990, helping them win the Sunday league. When he is in, Kuiper can be quite a sight. Here he shouldered arms to a ball which hit his off stump. The previous ball Gibbs had played on. The next over Jordaan, a charmless left-hander, nicked one to Rhodes. In a trice Cork had transformed an unpromising position.

Kuiper was not the only notable batsman to make a sorrowful departure. Carlisle Best is having a hard time in his guest season with the Province and found no hiding place as Ilott, who broke the opening stand when Koenig mishooked to square leg, promptly won a shout for leg-before. It was Best's fourth successive leg-before dismissal. Nobody loves you when you are down and out.

SCOREBOARD

WESTERN PROVINCE: First innings

D Jordaan c Rhodes b Cork	65
S G Koenig c Loye b Ilott	26
C A Best lbw b Ilott	0
H H Gibbs b Cork	20
A P Kuiper b Cork	0
*E O Simons lbw b Gough	7
A C Dawson not out	25
†R J Ryall c Lathwell b Ilott	2
M W Pringle c Loye b Gough	7
A Martyn b Croft	8
D MacHelm b Gough	0
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 11)	17
Total	177

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-63, 2-65, 3-118, 4-118, 5-124, 6-146, 7-152, 8-159, 9-178.

BOWLING: Ilott 19-3-42-3; Gough 17.5-2-47-3; Cork 15-1-52-3; Dale 7-3-7-0; Croft 21-8-24-1.

ENGLAND A XI: First Innings

M N Lathwell lbw b Martyn	8
*H Morris c Ryall b Simons	19
J P Crawley not out	29
A P Wells not out	12
Extras (b 1, lb 3, nb 2)	6
Total (2 wkts)	74

M B Loye, A Dale, †S J Rhodes, R D B Croft, D G Cork, M C Ilott and D Gough to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-37.

BOWLING: Pringle 5-0-13-0; Martyn 7-1-30-1; Simons 5-3-8-1; Dawson 2-0-10-0; MacHelm 2-0-9-0.

Umpires: C Mitchley and R Brooks.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

MAN UTD (0) 1 Ince 88 — BLACKBURN (1) 1 Gallacher 15. 44,511

SHEFFIELD U (0) 0 — LIVERPOOL (0) 0. 22,932

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 Holdsworth 38 — COVENTRY (1) 2 Ndlovu 26 Williams 71. 4,739

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

STOKE (1) 2 Orlygsson 13, Sandford 69 — BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 Peschisolido 58. 16,584

THIRD DIVISION: Postponed: Rochdale v Scarborough

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cobh Ramblers 2 Cork City 1

CYCLING

TIME-TRIALS: Midlands Counties CA (10 miles): 1, J King (Haverhill Wheelers) 22min 02sec; 2, J Stollery (Wreknsport CC) 22 18; 3, R Bradley (Team Sabre) 22 48. New Forest CC (10 miles): 1, C Brookes (VC Camelot) 22 14 (event record); 2, C Ball (Antelope RT) 23 40; 3, G Longland (Antelope RT) 24 00.

CYCLO-CROSS: Easy Glide Grand Prix (Kenilworth Common, 10 miles): 1, S Knight (Halesowen A and CC) 58:00; 2, V Cox (South Pennine RC) at 2:44; 3, A Sears (Royal Sutton CC) at 3:49. Crabwood CC (Southampton, 15 miles): 1, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) 57 01; 2, S Blunt (Wembley RC) at 1-11; 3, B Curtis (Festival RC) at 4:44. Hades RC (Gateshead International Stadium, 9 miles): 1, V Potter (Bradford Olympic RC) 52:10; 2, A Nixon (Reading University CC) same time; 3, R Colledge (Houghton CC) at 25sec

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

Bradford 26 Halifax 18

Bradford: Tries: McGowan 3, Dixon, Summers. Goals: Fox 3. Halifax: Tries: Bentley, Divorty, Southernwood. Goals: Schuster 3. Att: 11,095.

Featherstone 18 Castleford 28

Featherstone: Tries: Molloy, Roper, Simpson. Goals: Pearson 3. Castleford: Tries: Ellis 2, Sampson, Smales, Smith. Goals: Crooks 4. Att: 6,854.

Hull KR 14 Hull 6

Hull KR: Tries: Clark, P Fletcher. Goals: M Fletcher 3. Hull: Try: Eastwood. Goal: Eastwood. Att: 6,245.

Leeds 20 Wakefield 16

Leeds: Tries: Cummins, Fallon, Schofield, Tait. Goals: Holroyd 2. Wakefield: Tries: Bell, Woods. Goals: B Conway 4. Att: 14,541.

Oldham 8 Salford 20

Oldham: Try: Jones. Goals: Topping 2. Salford: Tries: Ford, Marsden, Williams. Goals: Blakeley 4. Att: 4,576

Wigan 40 St Helens 8

Wigan: Tries: Clarke, Cowie, Dermott, Edwards, Farrell, Offiah, Panapa. Goals: Botica 3, Lydon 3. St Helens: Try: Prescott. Goals: Prescott 2. Att: 29,162.

POSTPONED: Widnes v Warrington (rearranged for tomorrow, 3.0).

Second division

Hunslet 4 Bramley 18

POSTPONED: Barrow v Carlisle (rearranged for tomorrow, 2.0); Batley v Dewsbury (today, 2.30), Doncaster v Ryedale York; Keighley v Huddersfield (tomorrow, 2.30); Swinton v Rochdale; Whitehaven v Workington (tomorrow, 2.0).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Northampton 55 Stirling County 7. Cancelled: Birkenhead Park v Waterloo, Hereford v Luctonians.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Houston 10 San Francisco 7.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Phoenix 111 Houston 91, Chicago 95 Orlando 93.

TENNIS

MIAMI BEACH, Florida: Orange Bowl junior championships: 18 and under. Semi-finals: Boys: A Costa (Sp) bt F Browne (Arg) 6-1, 6-4, R Carretero (Sp) bt T Johansson (Swe) 6-4, 6-2. Girls: A Montilo (Sp) bt M D'Agostini (Br) 6-2, 6-3; S Jeyaseelan (Can) bt T Panova (Russ) 6-4, 6-4.

CRICKET

KARACHI (first one-day international): Pakistan beat Zimbabwe by seven wickets

ZIMBABWE

*†A Flower c Rashid b Wasim	0
G W Flower b Aqib	6
A D R Campbell b Wasim	8
D L Houghton c Basit b Salim	52
M H Dekker run out	33
G J Whittal run out	18
D Brain b Aqib	4
E A Brandes lbw b Wasim	2
S G Peall b Wasim	0
D H Streak c Javed b Wasim	2
J A Rennie not out	3
Extras (b 1, lb 9, w 3, nb 2)	15
Total (38 overs)	143

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-19, 3-22, 4-92, 5-117, 6-128, 7-131, 8-131, 9-138

BOWLING: Wasim 7-1-15-5; Aqib 8-1-21-2; Waqar 7-0-43-0; Mushtaq 8-1-21-0; Salim 5-0-19-1; Asif 3-0-14-0

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar b Streak	68
Asif Mujtaba b Brain	11
Inzamam-ul-Haq b Streak	12
Basit Ali not out	41
†Rashid Latif not out	10
Extras (lb 2, w 2, nb 1)	5
Total (3 wkts, 35.5 overs)	147

Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, *Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed and Aqib Javed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-46, 3-126.

BOWLING: Brandes 5-0-31-0; Brain 7-0-30-1; Peall 7-1-30-0; Streak 8-2-15-2; Rennie 6-0-32-0; Dekker 0.5-0-7-0

RAWALPINDI (second one-day international): Pakistan beat Zimbabwe by six wickets

ZIMBABWE

*A Flower lbw b Wasim	14
M H Dekker b Aamir	23
A D R Campbell b Wasim	74
D L Houghton c Basit b Waqar	58
D Brain c Asif b Waqar	0
G J Whittal not out	3
Extras (lb 12, w 9, nb 2)	23
Total (5 wkts, 40 overs)	195

G W Flower, E A Brandes, †W James, D H Streak and J A Rennie did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-87, 3-189, 4-190, 5-195

BOWLING: Wasim 8-0-32-2; Aamir 8-0-30-1; Aqib 8-0-31-0; Waqar 8-0-46-2; Salim 7-0-37-0; Asif 1-0-7-0.

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar b Dekker	45
Asif Mujtaba c Whittal b Streak	61
Basit Ali b Dekker	5
Javed Miandad c Rennie b Brandes	19
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out	44
*Wasim Akram not out	6
Extras (b 1, lb 7, w 8)	16
Total (4 wkts, 39.4 overs)	196

Salim Malik, †Rashid Latif, Waqar Younis, Aamir Nazir and Aqib Javed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-88, 2-98, 3-121, 4-188.

BOWLING: Brandes 8-1-40-1; Brain 7-1-30-0; Rennie 7.4-0-38-0; Streak 7-0-31-1; G W Flower 3-0-15-0; Dekker 4-0-16-2; Campbell 2-0-9-0; A Flower 1-0-9-0.

TOUR MATCHES: Mosbuwa: England Under-19 XI 309-8, Southern Province 134 (D Thomas 4-15). England Under-19 won by 175 runs. Colombo: England Under-19 XI 155-5 (M P Vaughan 77) v Colombo District CA

TODAY'S FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Aston Villa v Man City
Everton v Sheffield Wednesday (8 0)
Ipswich v West Ham (all ticket)
QPR v Oldham
Southampton v Chelsea (12.0)
Swindon v Arsenal (all ticket, 12.0)
Tottenham v Norwich

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	22	16	5	1	44	18	53
Leeds	22	11	7	4	37	25	40
Blackburn	21	11	6	4	29	18	39
Newcastle	21	10	6	5	38	20	36
Arsenal	21	9	7	5	20	13	34
Liverpool	21	9	5	7	33	26	32
Norwich	19	8	7	4	30	21	31
QPR	20	9	4	7	34	28	31
Aston Villa	21	8	7	6	24	23	31
Ipswich	21	7	8	6	20	24	29
West Ham	21	8	5	8	18	25	29
Wimbledon	21	7	7	7	24	28	28
Sheff Wed	21	6	9	6	37	29	27
Tottenham	21	6	9	6	29	24	27
Coventry	21	6	9	6	23	25	27
Everton	21	7	4	10	20	26	25
Man City	21	4	7	10	19	27	19
Oldham	21	4	7	10	16	32	19
Sheff Utd	22	3	9	10	18	33	18
Chelsea	19	3	6	10	12	22	15
Southampton	21	4	2	15	19	33	14
Swindon	21	2	8	11	19	43	14

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Barnsley v Derby
Bolton v Sunderland
Grimsby v Notts County
Leicester v Watford (11.30)
Millwall v Portsmouth (12.0)
Nottm Forest v Middlesbrough
Oxford Utd v Crystal Palace
Peterborough v Luton
Southend v Charlton (12.0)
Tranmere v Wolverhampton
West Brom v Bristol City

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	21	12	4	5	38	23	40
Tranmere	22	12	4	6	34	23	40
Millwall	22	11	6	5	32	26	39
Charlton	21	11	5	5	25	16	38
Stoke	22	11	3	8	34	35	36
Leicester	21	10	6	5	32	19	36
Portsmouth	22	9	8	5	31	29	35
Southend	21	10	4	7	34	27	34
Bristol City	22	9	6	7	27	25	33
Nottm Forest	20	9	5	6	31	25	32
Derby	20	9	3	8	31	33	30
W'hampton	21	6	10	5	34	25	28
Bolton	21	7	7	7	28	27	28
Middlesbrough	20	7	6	7	29	23	27
Notts County	21	8	2	11	27	37	26
West Brom	20	6	6	8	33	32	24
Birmingham	22	6	5	11	22	32	23
Sunderland	20	7	2	11	20	30	23
Grimsby	20	4	10	6	25	24	22
Barnsley	22	6	6	11	27	40	21
Luton	21	6	3	12	25	30	21
Watford	21	5	5	11	28	41	20
Oxford Utd	21	5	5	11	25	38	20
Peterborough	20	3	7	10	17	28	16

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Inter Cardiff; Bangor v Porthmadog, Briton Ferry v Llanelli; Caersws v Newtown, Ebbw Vale v Afan Lido; Flint Town Utd v Connah's Quay (11.0); Haverfordwest v Maesteg Park, Llansantffraid v Conwy, Mold v Holywell, Ton Pentre v Cwmbran (1.0).

Second division

Bournemouth v Brentford (12.30)
Bradford v Rotherham
Brighton v Barnet
Bristol Rvrs v Reading (all ticket)
Burnley v Wrexham
Fulham v Port Vale
Hartlepool v Huddersfield
Leyton Orient v Cambridge Utd
Stockport v Blackpool
York v Hull

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Reading	20	13	5	2	44	21	44
Stockport	20	12	4	4	38	18	40
Plymouth	20	11	4	5	40	28	37
Port Vale	20	10	5	5	38	24	35
Bristol Rovers	20	10	5	5	26	21	35
Blackpool	21	10	3	8	37	34	33
Burnley	20	10	3	7	33	25	33
Hull	20	9	4	7	37	34	31
Brentford	20	8	7	6	24	18	31
Bournemouth	19	8	6	5	23	19	30
Bradford	20	8	5	7	31	29	29
York	20	8	4	8	26	22	28
Wrexham	20	7	6	7	32	33	27
Cambridge Utd	20	7	6	7	28	29	27
Leyton Orient	20	7	6	7	25	29	27
Exeter	20	6	7	7	32	38	25
Cardiff	20	5	9	6	30	33	24
Swansea	21	6	5	10	24	32	23
Rotherham	20	5	6	9	26	34	21
Huddersfield	20	5	6	9	19	28	21
Fulham	20	5	3	12	21	29	18
Hartlepool	21	4	5	12	18	29	17
Brighton	20	3	7	10	17	33	16
Barnet	20	2	3	15	22	48	9

Third division

Chesterfield v Doncaster
Colchester v Mansfield (11.0)
Crewe v Wigan
Darlington v Carlisle
Gillingham v Northampton
Hereford v Shrewsbury (11 0)
Lincoln v Scunthorpe
Preston v Chester
Torquay v Wycombe
Walsall v Bury

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewe	19	12	4	3	42	27	40
Preston	19	11	3	5	45	33	36
Chester	19	11	2	6	35	21	35
Walsall	19	10	5	4	25	18	35
Wycombe	19	9	7	3	34	26	34
Shrewsbury	19	8	6	5	31	26	30
Scunthorpe	19	8	6	5	26	14	30
Rochdale	19	8	5	6	30	19	29
Bury	19	8	4	7	30	27	28
Torquay	19	8	9	4	32	29	27
Chesterfield	18	8	2	8	28	31	26
Doncaster	19	8	2	9	25	28	26
Mansfield	19	7	5	7	24	31	26
Lincoln	18	7	4	7	29	33	25
Colchester	18	7	2	9	35	44	23
Carlisle	19	5	7	7	25	22	22
Gillingham	19	5	6	8	24	26	21
Hereford	18	5	3	10	28	40	18
Scarborough	19	5	3	11	21	32	18
Wigan	19	4	4	11	26	39	16
Darlington	18	3	6	10	22	32	15
Northampton	19	2	5	12	18	36	11

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Bangor; Ballyclare v Omagh Town, Carrick v Larne, Cliftonville v Crusaders; Coleraine v Ballymena; Glentoran v Linfield; Newry v Distillery; Portadown v Glenavon.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Derry City v St Patrick's Athletic (3.15); Dundalk v Galway Utd (3.30); Limerick v Bohemians (2 15); Shamrock Rovers v Drogheda Utd (2 15).

GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Macclesfield
Bromsgrove v Kidderminster (11.30)
Dag and Red v Kettering
Halifax v Gateshead
Northwich v Witton
Runcorn v Stafford
Stalybridge v Southport
Telford v Merthyr
Welling v Dover
Woking v Slough
Yeovil v Bath

Scottish League

Premier division

Dundee Utd v Aberdeen
Hibernian v Partick
Kilmarnock v Dundee
Raith v St Johnstone
Rangers v Hearts
Postponed: Motherwell v Celtic.

First division

Clyde v Morton
Clydebank v Ayr
Falkirk v Dunfermline
St Mirren v Airdrie
Stirling v Dumbarton
Postponed: Brechin v Hamilton.

Second division

Albion v Montrose
Arbroath v East Fife
Queen's Park v Alloa
Stenhousemuir v Meadowbank
Stranraer v East Stirling
Postponed: Berwick v Queen of the South; Cowdenbeath v Forfar (to be played Monday, January 3).

Tennents Scottish Cup

First round replay

Postponed: Huntly v Albion.

Northern Premier League

Premier division

Knowsley Utd v Fleetwood
Marine v Colwyn Bay
Morecambe v Barrow
Winsford v Leek

OTHER MATCHES: Bishop Auckland v Frickley; Bridlington Town v Whitby Bay; Buxton v Matlock; Chorley v Horwich; Droylsden v Hyde; Emley v Accrington Stanley; Gainsborough v Boston. First division: Alfreton Town v Eastwood Town (11.0); Curzon Ashton v Ashton Utd; Great Harwood v Bamber Bridge (12.0); Gretna v Congleton Town; Goole v Worksop (12.0); Guiseley v Harrogate Town, Mossley v Caernarfon (12.0); Radcliffe Borough v Lancaster City; Warrington Town v Farsley Celtic, Workington v Spennymoor Utd.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Dorking, Chesham v Aylesbury (12.0), Dulwich v Bromley; Grays v Wivenhoe, Hendon v Hayes (11 15); Marlow v Wokingham (12.0); Molesey v Kingstonian, St Albans v Enfield, Stevenage Borough v Hitchin (11.0), Sutton Utd v Carshalton (11 0), Yeading v Harrow (11 30). First division: Abingdon Town v Chalfont St Peter; Billericay v Purfleet (11 0). Bognor Regis v Worthing, Boreham Wood v Barkingside Town; Heybridge Swifts v Bishops Stortford, Maidenhead v Windsor and Eton (11.30), Uxbridge v Staines (11.30); Walton and H v Tooting and Mitcham (11.0). Wembley v Ruislip Manor. Whyteleafe v Croydon (11 0). Second division: Aldershot Town v Thame Utd, Banstead Athletic v Lewes; Barton v Ware (11.0); Collier Row v Tilbury; Egham v Hampton (11.30); Hemel Hempstead v Edgware Town; Hungerford Town v Newbury Town; Leatherhead v Chertsey (12.0); Metropolitan Police v Malden Vale; Rainham v Aveley (11 30), Saffron Walden Town v Witham. Third division: Camberley Town v Cove, Cheshunt v Hertford (11.30); Clapton v East Thurrock Utd; Harlow Town v Royston Town (11.30); Horsham v Epsom and Ewell, Kingsbury Town v Feltham and Hounslow B; Leighton v Tring (11.0), Northwood v Flackwell Heath; Southall v Harefield Utd.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Nuneaton (10.30), Bashley v Farnborough, Cambridge City v Corby Town, Cheltenham v Trowbridge; Crawley v Hastings (11 15); Gresley Rovers v Burton (11.30); Hednesford v Halesowen; Moor Green v Solihull (12 0); Sittingbourne v Chelmsford (11.30), Waterlooville v Dorchester: Worcester v Gloucester. Midland division: Bedworth Utd v Armitage; Bridgnorth v Bilston (11.30); Evesham Utd v RC Warwick, Hinckley Town v Leicester Utd (11 0); King's Lynn v Grantham Town, Newport AFC v Redditch (12.0); Rushden and Diamonds v VS Rugby; Stourbridge v Dudley (11.0), Tamworth v Sutton Coldfield; Weston-super-Mare v Clevedon (11 30), Yate v Forest Green (11.15). Southern division: Ashford Town v Gravesend and Northfleet; Baldock Town v Braintree Town; Buckingham v Witney (11 0), Burnham v Fisher 93; Dunstable v Wealdstone (11.30), Erith and Belvedere v Tonbridge AFC, Havant v Salisbury (11 15); Margate v Canterbury City, Newport (IoW) v Fareham, Sudbury Town v Bury Town; Weymouth v Poole Town

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: First division: Aberaman v Barry, Blaenrhondda v AFC Porth; Brecon v Abergavenny, Caerleon v Caldicot

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Bootle v Prescot, Burscough v Skelmersdale Utd; Clitheroe v Atherton LR; Flixton v Salford City, Glossop North End v Chadderton; Maine Road v Darwen; Nantwich Town v Kidsgrove Athletic, Newcastle Town v Eastwood Hanley; Penrith v Bradford Park Avenue; Rossendale Utd v Bacup Borough, St Helens Town v Blackpool Rovers

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Whitby; Dunston FB v Blyth Spartans, Durham City v Consett; Eppleton CW v Brandon, Guisborough v Murton; Newcastle Blue Star v Ferryhill, Northallerton v Billingham Synthonia; Seaham Red Star v Hebburn, Shildon v West Auckland; Stockton v Tow Law.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Crediton Utd, Bristol Manor Farm v Mangotsfield Utd, Chippenham Town v Calne Town: Elmore v Tiverton Town; Paulton Rovers v Frome Town, Saltash Utd v Liskeard Athletic: Taunton Town v Exmouth Town.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper Town v Ossett Town, Brigg Town v Denaby Utd, Glasshoughton Welfare v Eccleshill Utd, Lincoln Utd v Winterton Rangers, Liversedge v Sheffield; Maltby MW v North Ferriby Utd, Ossett Albion v Hucknall Town, Pickering Town v Armthorpe Welfare; Stocksbridge PS v Ashfield Utd, Thackley v Pontefract Colliery.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard Utd v Sudbury Wanderers; Diss Town v Lowestoft Town; Fakenham Town v Watton Utd; Great Yarmouth Town v Gorleston; Haverhill Rovers v Halstead Town; Histon v Chatteris Town; March Town Utd v Wisbech Town; Newmarket Town v Soham Town Rangers; Stowmarket Town v Felixstowe Town; Tiptree Utd v Harwich and Parkeston: Wroxham v Norwich Utd.

RUGBY UNION

Club matches

Abertillery v Ebbw Vale (2.30)
Aspatria v Wigton (2.30)
Ayr v Clarkston (2.0)
Bath v Clifton
Bedford v Old Paulines
Birmingham/Solihull v Sihillians (2 30)
Bradford and Bingley v Morley
Camborne v Redruth (2.30)
Cardiff v Pontypridd (2.30)
Cheltenham v Stroud (2.30)
Coventry v Moseley
Currie v Boroughmuir (2.0)
Durham City v Stockton (2.15)
Gala v Melrose (2.0)
Glamorgan Wdrs v Newbridge (2.30)
Glasgow Acads v Glasgow HK (2.0)
Gloucester v Lydney (2.15)
Harrogate v Kendal (2 15)
Havant v Bournemouth (2.30)
Heriot's FP v Watsonians (2.0)
Jed-Forest v Hawick (2.0)
Laugharne v Tenby Utd (2.30)
Lichfield v Tamworth (2.30)
Llanelli v London Welsh (2.30)
London Irish v Old Millhillians (3 0)
Maesteg v Bridgend (2.30)
Musselburgh v Preston Lodge (2.0)
Narberth v Whitland (2.30)
Neath v Aberavon (2.30)
Newport v Bristol (2 30)
Northern v Newcastle Gosforth (2.15)
Nuneaton v Rugby (2.15)
Orrell v Liverpool St Helens (2.30)
Otley v Leeds (2.30)
Pontypool v Tredegar (2.30)
Preston Grasshoppers v Fylde (2.30)
Rhiwbina v Mountain Ash (2.30)
Richmond v Harlequins (2.30)
Sale v Broughton Park (2.30)
Selkirk v Kelso (2.00)
W Hartlepool v Hartlepool Rvrs (2.0)
Wigtownshire v Kilmarnock (2.0)

Swalec Cup

Fourth round

Oakdale v Builth Wells (2 30)
Old Penarthians v Seven Sisters (2.0)
Postponed: Abercarn v Pyle.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

Leigh v Sheffield (3 0)

Second division

Batley v Dewsbury (2.0)

OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: British Association: Premier division: Durham v Whitley Bay, Humberside v Billingham, Nottingham v Basingstoke, Sheffield v Cardiff, Peterborough v Bracknell. First division: Oxford v Guildford.

هكذا من الأصل

PHOTOGRAPHS: HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Desert Orchid, enjoying retirement but eager for his daily exercise, looks out expectantly from his box deep in the Leicestershire countryside

Rekindling memories of glory days

Julian Muscat finds Desert Orchid blooming in his carefree lifestyle out of the spotlight

Each morning, he takes flight across the paddock like a bird from a cage. He pulls up where the rain has collected, and down he goes, rolling furiously, until he finally rises with his grey coat bathed in gloriously in mud. This is Desert Orchid at home, and he is loving every minute.

Until recently, however, the strains of Christmas would find him hungry and hard as he prepared for his annual assault on the King George VI Chase. Now 14, it will be a more relaxed Desert Orchid who leads the parade for today's renewal at Kempton, where The Fellow bids to join him as the only horse to triumph three years in succession.

Desert Orchid, the reincarnated White Pegasus in the minds of so many, has somehow transcended the barriers between man and horse. To his thousands of devoted followers he has long since been one of us, yet one can only guess what will go through the mind of this extraordinary animal when he steps out on to the Kempton turf.

Kempton's obstacles represent the best and worst moments in Desert Orchid's glittering career. The scene of his four King George victories, the last of which came in 1990, was also the venue for his racecourse debut, when the headstrong child fell heavily and lay prostrate for a full 12 minutes before struggling to his feet. And it was at Kempton, 70 races later, that he somersaulted on his farewell appearance two years ago.

To see him in retirement is to rekindle all that and much more. His white coat may have lost some of its sheen, and the belly may be more rounded than of old. But, as he walks to the comfort of his box, there is no disguising the swagger, the sheer athleticism beneath the welter of rugs that serve to warm him on a foul December's day.

As a distant sound catches his attention, he is rooted to the ground with his head raised, his ears pricked, his neck arched slightly to one side. It is the very posture he assumed on the 34 occasions he visited the winner's enclosure, and one which, in addition to his rare colour, marked him down as a horse blessed with the all-too-human streak of arrogance. Indeed, the human analogy is evident in the minds of those closest to him.

"I think he acquired his distinguished deportment as he got older," Midge Burridge, wife of Jimmy, who bred Desert Orchid, said.

"He was a very ugly yearling who could be quite bolshy, but he was always very pleased with himself. He would always look around to make sure everybody was watching before he went into the winner's enclosure, which is exactly what Arkle used to do."

His most loyal fans insist that he was in Arkle's league, a quite preposterous claim when their respective race records are examined. The hyperbole has been such that the Burridge family could have been readily excused for promoting the argument, yet Midge is refreshingly candid when the matter is raised. "I don't believe a horse is a great horse unless he has won at Cheltenham," she said. "Desert Orchid did win the Gold Cup in 1989, but it is not too unfair to suggest he wasn't much better than all the others who have won the race only once, if you judge him on his Cheltenham record alone."



Adoring racegoers catch a glimpse of their favourite before his farewell race at Kempton two years ago

Yet "Dessie-mania," as it came to be known, evolved round more than just the horse's raw ability. He was accredited with two further qualities invoking the human instinct: bravery and intelligence. On this matter Midge Burridge is adamant.

Certainly, there was something tangible in the way he refused to accept defeat when it threatened to swamp him. This was best illustrated by his Cheltenham Gold Cup defeat of Yahoo, when, having been headed approaching the second-last fence, the grey came again on that arduous uphill run-in. However, Tom Morgan, Yahoo's jockey, insisted that courage played only a minor part because Simon Sherwood, the grey's rider, had ridden the perfect race.

"Sherwood knew my horse was inclined to stop when he hit the front," Morgan argued the following day. "He was in the lead when he looked over his shoulder and saw me cantering behind him. So he slowed down and I had no choice but to take it up. And, sure enough, my horse stopped."

If Morgan's mildly plausible account makes light of the grey's fighting spirit, it will never wash with those willingly hypnotised by the Desert Orchid Experience. Witness the unbridled joy and the regal applause that surround him as he leads out the runners for the King George today, a year on from a life-threatening bout of colic.

All who saw him racing preserve their own memory. And he continues to enchant the public in his regular appearances at charity events and homes for the aged. Yet, to see him at home, in the Leicestershire hamlet of Ab Kettleby, is to see Desert Orchid at his very best.

Regular gallops with the string of Kevin Morgan, the Melton Mowbray trainer, have shown that the mind is still willing, and so is the flesh. But the Burridge family are determined he should have the quiet retirement he so richly deserves.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Players in revolt against manager

A GROUP of Russian football internationals, including Andrei Kanchelskis, of Manchester United, is demanding the dismissal of the national manager, Pavel Sadyrin, before next year's World Cup finals in the United States.

The revolt began earlier this month after a 1-0 defeat in a World Cup qualifying match in Greece. Igor Shalimov, the Russia captain, who is the spokesman for the players, claimed that the manager's training methods are from "the stone age".

Six other players attended a news conference in Moscow yesterday and the captain said: "We do not refuse to play for the Russian national squad. We refuse to play in the team headed by Pavel Sadyrin." Russia have been drawn with Brazil, Cameroon and Sweden in group B for the first stage of the 1994 World Cup finals.

☐ Carlos Muñoz, the Ecuador international forward, was killed in car accident near Guayaquil, Colombia, on Saturday. The 29-year-old striker with the Colombian side, Barcelona, lost control of his vehicle when speeding, according to witnesses quoted by police.

Cash comeback delayed

TENNIS: Heavy rain in Melbourne yesterday prevented Pat Cash, the former Wimbledon champion, from playing his first singles match in 12 months. Cash was due to play John Fitzgerald, his fellow Australian, in his opening match of the Colonial Classic grass court event at Kooyong, but the rain washed out play. Cash, Wimbledon champion in 1987, who has not played a singles match since injuring his left knee late last year, underwent surgery on the injury in June.

"It's been a long hard struggle, but I'm back ready again," he said. Cash said he planned to play in the South Australian Open in Adelaide and the New South Wales Open in Sydney in early January before asking for a wild card into the Australian Open later in the month. In Group B of the Colonial Classic, he is drawn to play Russia's Alexander Volkov, Karel Novacek, of the Czech Republic, and Fitzgerald, his former David Cup teammate, with the winner meeting the top player from Group A.

Under sail for Hobart

YACHTING: Brindabella, crewed by 20 of the leading yachtsmen in Australia, led the way out of Sydney Harbour in style yesterday, steering a course to try to break the 18-year-old record time of 2days 14hr 36min 56sec in the Sydney to Hobart race. In glorious summer sunshine, surrounded by hundreds of spectator vessels on the water and thousands more lining the shores of Sydney, 104 yachts in the elite fleet swept out into the ocean for the 630-nautical mile journey in one of the roughest and toughest yacht events in the world. Only the biggest and fastest racers can expect to arrive in Hobart in a little over three days.

Peking ponders bid

OLYMPIC GAMES: Peking is considering a bid to stage the 2004 Olympic Games, according to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The Chinese capital, which finished second to Sydney in the voting for the venue in 2000, leads a list of 11 countries interested in staging the Games. Other candidates, according to the IOC, include Istanbul, Cairo, Seville, Buenos Aires and Stockholm. South Africa is reported to be considering Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban as joint sites. No official bids have been received. The IOC deadline is March 1996, with the choice to be made in 1997.

Stainrod challenge

FOOTBALL: Simon Stainrod yesterday said he relished the challenge of reviving the fortunes of the Scottish first division club, Ayr United. The 34-year-old Englishman, who took over as the club's player-manager over Christmas, said: "I want to give the place a big lift. There is definitely potential here. I haven't got a contract and don't want one. I will be judged on results." Stainrod replaced the former Scotland international, George Burley, at Somerset Park, a month after resigning as Dundee's director of football operations, a post specially created for him. Ayr are fifth from bottom with 21 points from 23 matches.

Phoenix rise again

BASKETBALL: Charles Barkley scored 38 points and made 18 rebounds and Kevin Johnson scored 36 points for the Phoenix Suns, who defeated the Houston Rockets 111-91, on Saturday in a National Basketball Association (NBA) match. The win was the Suns' eleventh win in their past 13 games. Hakeem Olajuwon scored 27 points for the Rockets.

Toni Kukoc, of the Chicago Bulls, scored with two seconds remaining to gain the Bulls their ninth consecutive win, 95-93 over Orlando Magic. The Bulls have won 13 of their past 14 games after losing four of their first seven.

Chinese athletes fail drug tests

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWENTY four Chinese athletes, including Xing Fen, the champion woman weightlifter, tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs during this year. Xing, a former world record holder and gold medal-winner at the Asian Games in 1990, failed a drug test during China's national games in October.

Zhou Tianhua, the world-ranked shotputter, who was fifth in this year's world championships in Stuttgart, also failed a random drug test administered by the Chinese Olympic Anti-drug Committee (COAC), according to China's Xinhua news agency.

Most of the other athletes were caught in tests at the national games.

However, the list did not include China's record-breaking women distance runners such as Wang Junxia and Qu Yunxia. A team from the International Amateur Athletic Federation flew to north-eastern Liaoning province last week to carry out random tests on the women who are trained by Ma Junren.

All the team members, known as the "Ma Family Army", took the test and proved negative.

The dominance of Ma's runners this year has led to accusations of drug abuse, but the coach attributes their success instead to his revolutionary training methods. A COAC spokesman said China had implemented a strict anti-doping programme, under which 1,608 Chinese athletes in 28 sports had been tested in international and domestic competitions in 1993.

☐ The Association of Tennis Professionals has denied allegations by Boris Becker in a German newspaper that some players on the ATP Tour are using drugs.

Mark Miles, the chief executive of the ATP Tour, said in a statement: "The ATP Tour has made a commitment to maintaining an anti-doping programme second-to-none among amateur and professional sports bodies around the world.

"To this day, no player has been confirmed positive for the use of any substance which would have resulted in a suspension." The ATP said it carried out 431 tests on 231 players at nine events during this year.

Becker alleged that although players may not have been using anabolic steroids, he was convinced there was use of drugs such as cocaine or marijuana.

Becker, who said he did not take drugs, said: "The question is whether the ATP would allow a positive drug test to come through because the whole scene would fall into disrepute and the sponsors would really run away."

When winning is not enough to pay the bills

Alix Ramsay looks back on a successful year for British sportswomen but sees a need for greater self-promotion

This has been a good year for women's sport in Britain. Sally Gunnell became the fastest woman in the world over 400 metres hurdles to win the world championship, Nicola Fairbrother won gold at the judo World Cup, the England women's cricket team won the World Cup, the rugby team won the Canada Cup — it is an impressive list.

Yet, for the most part, women's sport remains a poor relation to the men's game. Nobody would argue that Steffi Graf, although she may not hit the ball as hard as Pete Sampras, is not an outstanding tennis player, but the achievements of many sportswomen, especially those playing traditionally male games, are regarded as minority interest.

For those who work long, and often unpaid, hours to run and promote women's sport, it is proof of sexism and bias. Sports editors, predominantly male, will not give equal space to women's sport, television producers do not flock to cover women's sport, and therefore, so the argument runs, there are few role models and little positive reporting.

Unfortunately, revolutions rarely happen overnight, and often women's sport is it's own worst enemy. With sparse funding and less sponsorship, they have to rely on volunteers to run the governing bodies who often have little understanding of how the worlds of media, marketing, and promotion work.

In the time Helen Rollason has been a presenter for BBC television sport, she has seen a healthy improvement in the attitudes to women's sport.

Yet she, too, feels women's sport has to take some of the responsibility for the sporadic coverage. The netball international series against Trinidad and Tobago — the first series England have won at home in 20 years — went down well on the small screen, but since then there has been nothing.

"Where are they in following it up?" Rollason asked. "The next international isn't until November. I know money is a big factor, but surely they have got to cash in and have another tournament in the spring. The audience is ready for it, and the BBC is ready for it."

The problem is money. Television attracts sponsors. Big events attract television. But to stage a big event, you need money, which means you need a sponsor — a classic Catch 22.

When Karen Earl, who runs her own sponsorship and marketing consultancy in London, is looking for a team or an event for a client to back, she knows she has to give the sponsor value for money, and women's sport seldom provides that.

"When you look at what men's sport can deliver for the sponsor, there is no comparison," Earl said. "Men can get recognition for their skill, but for women, glamour helps. Whether you like it or not, good-looking women are marketable. It's the old adage of life: women have to promote themselves more than men do."

But self-promotion does not come easily to some sports. When Alice Cooper tried to get coverage for the women's rugby World Cup in 1990, she found the outsiders' perception of the sport was less than helpful. "The hard core believed that since these girls were rough and ready, so they must all be lesbians," she said. "But the real image of the sport is of intelligent women playing an intelligent sport."

Through sheer hard work, Cooper did get widespread coverage of the event, but was not helped by some of the players. As she tried to identify personalities within the teams, and arrange photo-calls for them, she was hindered by unco-operative players wishing only to be noticed for their activities on the field, not off it.

The image of women's sport does little to help sell the product. Martina Navratilova may be the most successful woman tennis player of all time, but her openness about her lifestyle has cost her dear in endorsement contracts. But with more than US$18m in prize-money to her name, she can afford it. Further down the financial scale, women are trying to juggle a career in sport and a career to pay the mortgage.

The Women's Sports Foundation has realised the need to educate athletes in the ways of the business world, and is running training programmes for women, teaching them how to talk to the press, agents, and sponsors.

Rollason would like to see some liaison between the governing bodies of women's sport and television. "They don't realise the needs of television, what we are looking for when a tournament is on," she said. "They need to meet and talk to the commissioning editors. But ultimately, it is not because of television that the sport is successful, it is because of the success of the sportswomen themselves. Success breeds success, and it is that which makes editors say, 'I must get this in my programme'."

But if women's sport needs a role model, it need look no further than women's golf. Under the guidance of Terry Coates, the Women Professional Golfers' European Tour has built on the success of the Solheim Cup in 1992, and now has a 17-event, £2m schedule for next year. By careful bargaining of what he calls "blue-chip events", Coates has persuaded SkySports to cover small tournaments, and has also negotiated a clothing deal with Marks and Spencer. He encourages his players to show their personalities, talk to the spectators, and get to know the media.

With a background in business and marketing, Coates is using the system to show his sport to its best advantage, knocking on every door until he gets a response. He admits he is lucky to have several young and attractive players on the tour who are easy to market. "But I also know no one will watch if they can't play," he said.

"I would never dream of telling a golfer how to play golf, but professional sport is more than just hitting a golf ball. If a tin of beans comes out of the factory without a label, no one is going to buy it. Marketing is all about putting the label on the tin, so people notice it, recognise it, and buy it."



Gunnell: world champion



Rollason: need for liaison



Fairbrother: gold medal

Dunwoody rides luck on Chirkpar

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent in Dublin



Bolger enjoyed good fortune at Leopardstown

CHIRKPAR, owned by Dr Michael Smurfit, has found Leopardstown a lucky course in the past, but he needed all the good fortune to win yesterday's feature race, the Ir£20,000 Dennys Gold Medal Chase. The good luck started when connections arrived at Leopardstown to learn that the favourite, Merry Gale, had knocked himself over Christmas and was an absentee. "It is nothing much," his trainer, Jim Dreaper, said. "If I did not think so much of him I might well have taken a chance."

Turning into the straight Chirkpar appeared to be struggling in fourth as Mubadir quickened into a four-length lead from the heavily-backed Brockley Court. It looked all over as they rose to the final jump, but Mubadir caught the top of the fence and crumpled on landing, impeding Brockley Court in the process. Richard Dunwoody, alive to his chance, now asked Chirkpar for a renewed effort and he rallied on the flat to win by 2½ lengths from Brockley Court.

"He got in close to a couple, but he kept picking up for me on the flat and finished with a flourish," Dunwoody said. The Jim Bolger-trained gelding will now be aimed at Cheltenham's Arkle Challenge Trophy.

Another trainer looking forward to Cheltenham is Noel Meade, after Shirley's Delight put up an impressive debut to win the Dennys Juvenile Hurdle. "I will give her just one more run, probably at Punchestown, before going to the Cheltenham festival," Meade said. "I expect that she will be a strong challenger for the Triumph Hurdle.

At Leopardstown today, Ebony Jane, winner of the Jameson Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse on Easter Monday, is set to carry top weight of 12 stone in the Ir£35,000 Findus Handicap Chase. She is strongly fancied by her trainer, Francis Flood, who is adamant that the mare would have won her prep race at Clonmel but for slipping up.

She has a dozen rivals, headed by the much improved six-year-old King Of The Gales, who has won five races in a row. He profited from the exit of Ebony Jane at Clonmel to take the Morris Oil Chase, and before that had battled on gamely to get the better of Graham Bradley's mount, Fissure Seal, in the Troytown Handicap Chase at Navan. Also to be reckoned with is Deep Heritage, who drifted in the betting at Punchestown earlier this month but still proved too good for Desert Lord in the Irish Field Chase.

The clash of the afternoon, however, will be the meeting of two outstanding novice hurdlers, Minella Lad and Danoli, in the 1st Choice Novices' Hurdle. Danoli has yet to be beaten, and his trainer, Tom Foley, said yesterday: "It makes no matter to me what I have to run him against or what the ground, course or distance is."

Minella Lad will be a doughty opponent for Danoli, as he too has run up an imposing sequence and in terms of experience has the advantage. However, under the conditions of the race, he has to give 3lb to Danoli, and Foley is adamant that his charge will take advantage of that concession.

Arabic-named horses proving hard to digest

The season for owners choosing names for their horses is upon us and their deliberations, no doubt, will produce its customary crop of eccentricities. Still, strange names in racing are nothing new: a glance through the form book of a century ago reveals the following: Albogalerus, Eilean Boidheach, Geheimrath, Harrooza, Kaimakan, Kaboonza, Lognavadogne, Nasr-Ed-Din, Vulpecula, Whiskeroso, and Zakooska.

It is noteworthy, however, that the only horse in the book with an Arabic name is Nasr-Ed-Din, although that does not make him quite unique. Adb El Kader had won the Grand National both in 1850 and 1851, and in 1857 El Hakim captured the Ebor, then a few weeks later was involved in a triple dead-heat for the Cesarewitch. So names with Arabic connotations are nothing new, although they were a distinct rarity a century ago.

How different today. The 1993 edition of *Horses In Training* lists well over 300 horses, or two per cent of the entire equine racing population, with Arabic names. At random, we see Almamzar, Almanzora, Alazwar, Aljazzaf, Alhijaz, Alkhafji and Alzamina; Jathib, Jawaal and Jawani; Mutamanni, Mutakddim, Mutakallam, Mutawall, Muhtashim, Mujawab, Muwafik, Mujaazafah and Mumayyaz; Tajhiz, Takhlid, Takhrij and Tawjih.

Here is rare (and unpronounceable) confusion for the punter on the Clapham omnibus and racegoers throughout the land, to say nothing of television and course commentators.

Yet Arab ownership does not necessarily involve Arabic names. A fairly illustrious short-list from recent years comprises Dancing Brave, Generous, Green Desert, Musical Bliss, Oh So Sharp, Pebbles, Quest For Fame, Rainbow Quest, Sonic Lady and Soviet Star.

In other words, Shaikh Mohammed, Khaled Abdulla and Fahd Salman are all conspicuously courteous enough to pay a compliment to the country in which they are racing by giving nearly all their horses names which can readily be pronounced and understood.

By contrast, it is Shaikh Hamdan who seems most committed to giving his runners almost exclusively Arabic names, while his brothers, Maktoum Al-Maktoum and Shaikh Ahmed have roughly 75 per cent. Shaikh Hamdan could well enhance his standing and reputation by ensuring that at least a proportion of his huge string is given names more acceptable in the country where they compete.

Meanwhile, an owner is entitled to name his horse what he likes within the requirements imposed by Weatherbys, and it is unlikely that the Jockey Club would intervene to restrict the registration of Arabic names.

But what they should certainly do is to ensure, by a firm instruction to Weatherbys, that the present unsatisfactory confusions caused by such names are prevented in the future.

JACK WATERMAN



Racing commentary

Sedgefield is victim of snow

SNOW and frost are threatening to curtail today's racing programme. Sedgefield became the first victim of the Christmas cold snap when officials abandoned the meeting yesterday afternoon because of two to three inches of snow on the course.

There are also doubts surrounding the fixtures at Market Rasen and Ayr, with inspections planned for both courses at 8am today. At Ayr, the clerk of the course, Sam Morshead, is hoping that the meeting will be saved by a rise in temperatures.

"There's frost in the ground and we wouldn't be able to race today, but it's forecast to be milder tomorrow," Morshead said. "If that happens we should be all right."

Huntingdon was given the go-ahead after an inspection yesterday morning while Newton Abbot was passed fit after a check on Christmas Eve. The other five courses scheduled to stage racing — Hereford, Kempton Park, Wetherby, Wincanton and Wolverhampton — report no problems.

Chepstow racecourse is in excellent shape for its Welsh National fixture tomorrow. Rodger Farrant, the clerk of the course, said: "We've no worries. We have had some snow flurries and a frost overnight but it's cleared now. The going is soft."

☐ There will be a precautionary inspection for the Irish fixture at Downpatrick at 7am.

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
Mrs M Reveley	53	40	27	10	+9.96
K Bailey	41	28	22	4	-11.53
M Pipe	35	41	18	5	-13.09
P Hobbs	33	14	21	5	+124.21
J White	32	19	19	36	-33.37
D Nicholson	31	28	20	4	+1.33
N Twiston-Davies	31	20	20	5	-23.72
O Sherwood	24	15	12	15	+14.74
J Johnson	23	9	8	6	+90.46
G Richards	20	20	15	15	-56.44
M Hammond	19	22	13	4	-46.79
J Gifford	18	21	10	15	-18.78

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
A Maguire	98	70	47	3	+60.82
R Dunwoody	63	73	51	13	-89.38
J Osborne	51	34	31	3	-36.11
P Niven	48	39	29	8	-30.89
N Williamson	48	49	32	2	-34.38
G McCourt	34	29	24	12	-28.95
M A Fitzgerald	32	24	33	4	-42.84
D Murphy	28	25	14	5	-6.16
G Bradley	27	10	13	7	+6.82
L Wyer	23	16	20	8	+16.06
A Dobbin	21	16	9	0	+44.81
M Hourigan	21	8	15	2	+8.65

THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

TUESDAY: Kempton Park, Chepstow, Wetherby, Wolverhampton (AW).
WEDNESDAY: Newcastle, Plumpton, Stratford, Southwell.
THURSDAY: Carlisle, Fontwell Park, Taunton, Warwick.
FRIDAY: Catterick Bridge, Folkestone, Leicester, Newbury.
SATURDAY: Catterick Bridge, Lingfield Park (AW), Newbury, Nottingham, Southwell (AW).
Flat meetings in bold

HUNTINGDON

THUNDERER
12.30 Galaxy High. 1.00 Man O Mine. 1.30 Radical Request. 2.00 Gray's Ellergy. 2.30 Jimster. 3.00 Mrs Mayhew.

GOING: HEAVY, SOFT IN PLACES

12.30 AEGON FINANCIAL SERVICES NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,627: 2m 110yd) (7 runners)

1 1503 SOCIAL CLIMBER 24 (D,G,S) A Turnell 9-11-10 ... S McNeill
2 4302 GALAXY HIGH 20 (B,G,S) N Henderson 6-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald
3 U-33 SPOONHILL WOOD 24 (B,BF) J Wharton 7-11-2 ... B Dalton
4 2P0- WATERFORD CASTLE 247 A Turnell 6-10-13 ... B Powell
5 16FP STRONG JOHN 41 (G) F Murphy 5-10-10 ... P Murphy (7)
6 5-53 PETMER 18 (S) K Burke 6-10-6 ... D Bridgwater
7 PP5 UNEXIS 14 S Mellor 6-10-0 ... Chris Webb (7)
5-4 Galaxy High, 4-1 Social Climber, 6-1 Waterford Castle, 8-1 Spoonhill Wood, 10-1 Strong John, 12-1 Petmer, Unexis.

1.00 AEGON FINANCIAL SERVICES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,043: 2m 5f 110yd) (10)

1 1/5 EASTERN RIVER 23 (G) T Forster 7-10-12 ... B Powell
2 FINESSE THE KING N Twiston-Davies 5-10-12 ... D Bridgwater
3 0 KING SCORPIO 19 C Egerton 4-10-12 ... B Wright
4 LORD NASKRA 135F I Campbell 4-10-12 ... R Campbell
5 MALENOIR 13F R Spicer 6-10-12 ... M A Fitzgerald
6 1-05 MAN O MINE 58 (F) F Murphy 4-10-12 ... P Murphy (7)
7 2 NICK THE BEAK 23 J Upson 4-10-12 ... Mr T Byrne (5)
8 55- RASTA MAN 364 W Musson 5-10-12 ... T Kent
9 6 RITA'S RISK 31 R Spicer 4-10-12 ... J Ryan
10 500 SOLO GENT 23 A Jones 4-10-12 ... S McNeill
2-1 Nick The Beak, 7-2 Man O Mine, 9-2 Eastern River, 5-1 Finesse The King, 8-1 Rasta Man, 12-1 Malenoir, 14-1 King Scorpio, 16-1 others.

1.30 AEGON FINANCIAL SERVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,002: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1 0-66 MAJOR INQUIRY 51 (F,G) J Gifford 7-11-10 ... E Murphy
2 25-3 RADICAL REQUEST 5 (G,S) K Burke 10-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald
3 0P31 MO ICHI DO 10 (F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 7-10-9 ... T Eley (5)
4 0F43 KEV'S LASS 18 (S) F Murphy 5-10-6 ... P Murphy (7)
5 -U34 BATHWICK BOBBIE 28 (B) A Turnell 6-10-4 ... S McNeill
7-4 Kev's Lass, 11-4 Mo Ichi Do, 7-2 Bathwick Bobbie, 5-1 Radical Request, 8-1 Major Inquiry.

2.00 AEGON NOVICES HURDLE (£1,763: 3m 2f) (11)

1 4212 NED THE HALL 23 (BF,S) K Bailey 5-11-5 ... A Thornton (3)
2 5-12 OCEAN LEADER 23 (CD,F) Mrs D Haine 6-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald
3 3122 GRAY'S ELLERGY 14 (G) D Gandolfo 7-11-0 ... Miss P Jones (5)
4 0-0P AFTICA 53 (B) J Moore 6-10-12 ... P Moore (7)
5 P-53 BUCKSHOT 23 J Gifford 5-10-12 ... E Murphy
6 /3-3 CALLEROSE 19 T Forster 6-10-12 ... B Powell
7 553 HENRY VILL 10 N Twiston-Davies 5-10-12 ... D Bridgwater
8 0FP3 LITTLE THYNE 65 P Pritchard 8-10-12 ... Dr P Pritchard
9 4346 SUASANAN SIOSANA 9 J Upson 8-10-12 ... Mr T Byrne (5)
10 3F2P THE GOLFING CURATE 13 R Rowe 8-10-12 ... S McNeill
11 -000 THE OVERTRUMPER 10 G Roe 6-10-12 ... T Kent
5-2 Ned The Hall, 7-2 Callerose, 9-2 Gray's Ellergy, 5-1 Ocean Leader, 7-1 Henry Vill, 8-1 Buckshot, 14-1 Little Thyne, Suasanan Siosana, 16-1 others.

2.30 AEGON HANDICAP CHASE (£3,236: 3m) (11)

1 2-1 MASTER OATS 53 (D,G) K Bailey 7-12-0 ... A Thornton (3)
2 3-2P SCOLE 58 (G) F Murphy 8-11-13 ... P Murphy (7)
3 534F SIRRAH JAY 11 (F,G,S) K Burke 13-11-10 ...
4 -62P BOWL OF OATS 11 (B,S) A Turnell 7-11-9 ... S McNeill
5 354F DANDY MINSTREL 10 (CD,F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-8 ... D Bridgwater
6 F24- WOODY WILL 227 (F) O Sherwood 7-10-13 ... 2nd pref
7 8P-0 LEAGAUNE 23 (D,S) T Casey 11-10-10 ...
8 2513 JIMSTER 31 (CD,BF,F,S) C Nash 11-10-9 ... M A Fitzgerald
9 24-3 THAMESDOWN TOOTSIE 19 (G,S) A Jones 8-10-5 ... B Powell
10 -P00 ANOTHER CORNER 10 (B,F,G,S) T Donnelly 10-10-0 T Eley (5)
11 /35/ CLONROCHE GAZETTE 663 (S) Miss D Baker 13-10-0 ...
9-4 Jimster, 11-4 Master Oats, 5-1 Bowl Of Oats, 6-1 Thamesdown Tootsie, 8-1 Dandy Minstrel, Scole, 14-1 Sirrah Jay, 16-1 others.

3.00 AEGON FINANCIAL SERVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,511: 2m 110yd) (6)

1 4006 ZAMIRAH 16 (D,F,G) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-12 ... D Bridgwater
2 510/ STEVEADON 657 (D,G) N Callaghan 7-11-12 ... R Campbell
3 3F31 TOP WAVE 13 (D,G,S) N Henderson 5-11-9 Pat Thompson (7)
4 -162 NIGHT WIND 45 (CD,G,S) A Turnell 6-10-12 ... S McNeill
5 1145 MRS MAYHEW 34 (CD,F,G,S) F Murphy 5-10-3 P Murphy (7)
6 P432 JOLI'S GREAT 37 (B,D,G) M Ryan 5-10-2 ... J Ryan
9-4 Zamirah, 5-2 Top Wave, 11-4 Night Wind, 5-1 Mrs Mayhew, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: K Bailey, 7 winners from 27 runners, 25.9%; M Ryan, 7 from 30, 23.3%; A Jones, 3 from 14, 21.4%; N Henderson, 7 from 34, 20.6%; J Gifford, 15 from 75, 20.0%; S Mellor, 3 from 16, 18.8%.

JOCKEYS: J Ryan, 8 winners from 34 rides, 23.5%; S McNeill, 6 from 42, 14.3%; E Murphy, 4 from 28, 14.3%. Only qualifiers.

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WETHERBY

THUNDERER
1.00 White Willow. 1.30 One Man. 2.00 Westholme. 2.30 General Pershing. 3.00 Last 'O' The Bunch. 3.30 Mega Blue.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 WESTHOLME.

GOING: SOFT SIS

1.00 CHRISTMAS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,250: 2m) (16 runners)

1 121 KENMORE-SPEED 10 (D,F,S) (K Dacker) Mrs S Smith 6-11-7 ... Richard Guest 90
2 2403-61 VASILIEV 19 (V,D,S) (R Houlton) M Hammond 5-11-7 ... C Grant 91
3 52 ALJADEER 19 (G Shouler) M W Easterby 4-11-0 ... N Doughty 93
4 432- BANCHORY 292 (G Shouler) M W Easterby 4-11-0 ... J Driscoll (7) –
5 203 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 19 (Cumbrian Industrials Ltd) M H Easterby 4-11-0 ... L Wyer 90
6 GOLDEN TORQUE 52F (T Smith) R Bastiman 6-11-0 ... H Bastiman (5) –
7 0/P MAGENTA BOY 45 (J Featherstone) G Moore 5-11-0 ... N Bentley (3) –
8 P MOYHILL 32 (Mrs P Morrison) J Mackie 4-11-0 ... D Forth (7) –
9 0- PERFECT LIGHT 457 (Lady Harris) Mrs S Smith 4-11-0 ... A Jones –
10 0 SCARABEN 10 (J Tennant) S Kettlewell 5-11-0 ... W Marston –
11 TALOS 164F (Mrs G Lister) W Bentley 5-11-0 ... S Turner –
12 60 WALKING THE PLANK 16 (B) (Mrs Y Spink) N Tinkler 4-11-0 ... P Harley –
13 WESTFIELD MOVES 47F (A Walley) H Collingridge 5-11-0 ... V Smith –
14 2 WHITE WILLOW 39 (BF) (Exors of Mrs H North) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-0 ... P Niven 89
15 ZAFARRANCHO 434F (Marquesa de Moratalla) J FitzGerald 4-11-0 ... M Dwyer –
16 056- STOPROVERITATE 28F (J Clark) S Norton 4-10-9 ... D Wilkinson 78
BETTING: 5-2 White Willow, 7-2 Aljadeer, 7-1 Kenmore-Speed, Cumbrian Challenge, 8-1 Zafarrancho, Vasiliev, 12-1 Westfield Moves, Stoproveritate, 16-1 Golden Torque, Talos, 20-1 others.
1992: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

1.30 BOROUGHBRIDGE NOVICES CHASE (£2,976: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

1 54-1152 DEEP DECISION 23 (G) (A Cairns) P Cheesbrough 7-11-8 ... M Dwyer 78
2 132-111 ONE MAN 19 (D,F,G,S) (J Hales) G Richards 5-11-7 ... N Doughty 89
3 13300-V CLYDE RANGER 11 (S) (T Bray) M Hammond 6-11-0 ... C Grant –
4 2-4FF63 EDEN SUNSET 27 (R Collins) R Collins 7-11-0 ... 2nd pref 73
5 363482 SUPPOSIN 9 (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 5-10-13 ... 2nd pref 85
BETTING: 1-4 One Man, 9-2 Clyde Ranger, 8-1 Deep Decision.

2.00 ST JOHN AMBULANCE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,560: 2m) (10 runners)

1 21/12/4 PRECIOUS BOY 19 (CD,G,S) (M Johnson) M Meagher 7-12-0 ... D Ford (7) –
2 300-402 ABBOT OF FURNESS 10 (C,D,S) (Lord Cavendish) G Richards 9-11-7 ... N Doughty 98
3 5010-24 BO KNOWS BEST 51 (D,F) (N Goldman) Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-2 ... P Niven 89
4 1146-3 KIVETON TYCOON 42 (B,D,G,S) (K H (Equine) Ltd) J Glover 4-11-0 ... M Dwyer 89
5 2312-42 HOME COUNTIES 44 (V,S) (Roxy Cinemas Ltd) D Moffatt 4-10-9 ... Richard Guest 96
6 414PP-1 OUR SLIMBRIDGE 41 (D,G,S) (A Fiber) C Williams 5-10-3 ... 2nd pref 89
7 21310-0 LOCH GARANNE 23 (CD,S) (M Gleeson) M Camacho 5-10-2 ... 2nd pref 88
8 552-6F1 KANNDABIL 27 (B,CD,G,S) (N McAndrews) N Tinkler 6-10-2 ... C Grant 94
9 4-11131 WESTHOLME 16 (D,G) (T Bennett) M H Easterby 5-10-0 ... L Wyer 99
10 5-F02FP FLASS VALE 16 (F) (Goldspace Business Services) C Fairhurst 5-10-0 ... D Wilkinson –
Long handicap: Flass Vale 8-12.
BETTING: 2-1 Westholme, 9-2 Kiveton Tycoon, 5-1 Bo Knows Best, 11-2 Abbot Of Furness, Home Counties, 7-1 Precious Boy, 14-1 Kanndabil, 50-1 Flass Vale.

2.30 ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE (£13,630: 3m 110yd) (7 runners)

1 2112-P0 ANOTHER CORAL 16 (F,G,S) (M Deeley) D Nicholson 10-12-0 ... W Marston 97
2 112F-21 COGENT 30 (F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) A Turnell 9-11-11 ... NON-RUNNER –
3 43313-1 YOUNG BENZ 23 (C,G,S) (T Bennett) M H Easterby 9-11-3 ... L Wyer 96
4 11-2345 GENERAL PERSHING 16 (CD,F,G,S) (J Potter) G Richards 7-10-13 ... N Doughty 99
5 2562-26 MERRY MASTER 30 (CD,F,G,S) (G Lansbury) R Armytage 9-10-8 ... Gee Armytage 97
6 6F1-111 MR BOSTON 23 (CD,F,G,S) (M Oldham) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-8 ... P Niven 96
7 3P2-311 CARBISDALE 16 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Williams) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-7 ... M Dwyer 96
BETTING: 6-4 Mr Boston, 7-2 Carbisdale, 5-1 Young Benz, 6-1 General Pershing, 8-1 Merry Master, 10-1 Another Coral.

3.00 SUPERMASTER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,695: 2m 4f 110yd) (3 runners)

1 435-563 UNCLE ERNIE 9 (G,S) (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-12-0 ... M Dwyer 95
2 23-4221 LAST 'O' THE BUNCH 19 (C,D,F,G,S) (G Middlebrook) G Richards 9-11-8 ... N Doughty 99
3 38/22F DEEP DAWN 23 (S) (S Bankin) M Hammond 10-10-0 ... C Grant 87
Long handicap: Deep Dawn 9-2
BETTING: 4-5 Last 'O' The Bunch, 11-8 Uncle Ernie, 8-1 Deep Dawn.

3.30 BOXING DAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,023: 2m) (9 runners)

1 111512 MEGA BLUE 17 (D,BF,F,G,S) (T Yates) Mrs V Aconley 8-11-10 ... P Niven 99
2 49-620 BASILICUS 21 (T Hemmings) Mrs S Smith 4-11-8 ... D Towler (7) 84
3 065-650 STRONG MEASURE 27 (Leading Star Racing) P Cheesbrough 5-11-4 ... C Grant 93
4 5P4- PESSOA 346 (Lt-Col L Field) Mrs S Smith 6-10-10 ... R Wilkinson (7) 85
5 050- AIDE MEMOIRE 13F (Mrs B Breach) T Barron 4-10-9 ... L Wyer 92
6 P062 TAHITIAN 7 (BF) (B Todd) N Tinkler 4-10-9 ... M Dwyer 98
7 P005-P0 STRATHBOGIE MIST 9 (W Sellers) J Parkes 5-10-4 ... D Forth (7) 88
8 05PFP5/ GYMCRAK DAWN 581 (G) (F Sanders) J Hetherton 8-10-4 ... P Harley –
9 33/P- STEEL RIVER 374 (D Blake) Bob Jones 6-10-0 ... V Smith –
Long handicap: Steel River 9-11
BETTING: 5-2 Aide Memoire, 3-1 Tahitian, 4-1 Mega Blue, 5-1 Basilicus, 8-1 Strong Measure, 16-1 Pessoa, 20-1 Strathbogie Mist, 25-1 Gymcrak Dawn, Steel River.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
A Turnell	3	4	75.0	Gee Armytage	3	8	37.5
D Nicholson	7	18	38.9	N Doughty	19	80	23.8
R Armytage	3	8	37.5	P Niven	35	153	22.9
Mrs M Reveley	34	101	33.7	L Wyer	27	124	21.8
Jimmy Fitzgerald	21	91	23.1	M Dwyer	28	159	17.6
G Richards	27	120	22.5	D Byrne	6	45	13.3

WINCANTON

THUNDERER
12.40 Myrtilla. 1.10 James The First. 1.40 Flyer's Nap. 2.10 Gay Ruffian. 2.40 Cool And Easy. 3.10 First Command.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

12.40 PLEASURE PRINTS FILLIES NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,093: 2m) (15 runners)

1 CHILDHAY MILLIE P Nicholls 10-12 ... C Maude
2 0-00 FORTUNES COURSE 26 J King 10-12 ... A Procter (5)
3 050 HOT 'N ROSIE 14 D Gandolfo 10-12 ... R Farrant (3)
4 IDIOT'S LADY Mrs J Pitman 10-12 ... I Lawrence
5 50 KRAKATOA 14 A Forte 10-12 ... M Bosley
6 6-00 LAY IT OFF 23 J G O'Neill 10-12 ... S Curran (5)
7 0 MYRTILLA 26 A Turnell 10-12 ... Mr J Rees
8 P ON THE BOOK 19 Mrs S Williams 10-12 ... R J Beggan
9 0 RAISIN TURF 26 D Nicholson 10-12 ... R Bellamy
10 60 ROMANY BLUES 24 A Jarvis 10-12 ... W McFarland
11 22-0 SLIPMATIC 23 P Jones 10-12 ... B Powell
12 30-0 STATE LADY 67 A Barrow 10-12 ... R Davis (3)
13 0 SUZY BLUE 19 T George 10-12 ... M Hourigan
14 TITAN EMPRESS S Mellor 10-12 ... S Earle
15 -550 WYJUME 14 J Gifford 10-12 ... P Hide (3)
2-1 Raisin Turf, 9-2 Myrtilla, 11-2 Idiot's Lady, 6-1 Wyjume, 8-1 Childhay Millie, 10-1 Lay It Off, Hot 'N Rosie, 12-1 Krakatoa, Slipmatic, 16-1 others.

1.10 HARRY DUFOSEE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,626: 2m) (9)

1 26-F GOLDEN FREEZE 37 (D,G,S) R Lee 11-11-10 ... P Hide (3)
2 6132 THATS THE LIFE 37 (D,F,G) T George 8-11-7 ... M Hourigan
3 411F SAILORS LUCK 28 (D,BF,G,S) P Murphy 8-10-11 ... E Murphy
4 -341 MR FELIX 19 (D,F,G,S) R Champion 7-10-3 ... R Davis (3)
5 1-P2 DARE SAY 25 (D,F,G,S) R Alner 10-10-2 ... S Earle
6 3522 JAMES THE FIRST 25 (F,G,S) P Nicholls 5-10-0 ... C Maude
7 41-1 GALAGAMES 6 (D,G,S) R Beckler 6-10-0 (4ex) ... R Farrant (3)
8 3/14- MASTER SOUTH LAD 440 (F) W G M Turner 9-10-0 ... D Skyrme
9 F4/P HIGH DIP 41 (D,F,G,S) P Leach 13-10-0 ... B Clifford
7-2 Sailors Luck, 4-1 Galagames, James The First, 6-1 Thats The Life, 7-1 Mr Felix, 8-1 Dare Say, 10-1 Golden Freeze, 16-1 others.

1.40 WINCANTON GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,521: 2m 6f) (26)

1 311/ COKENNY BOY 689 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 8-12-0 ... I Lawrence
2 41-5 LORNA-GAIL 30 (G,S) R Alner 7-11-11 ... W McFarland
3 21-18 PEATSWOOD 9 (G,S) M Channon 5-11-10 ... 2nd pref
4 61-6 BUONARROTI 16 (G,S) J Old 6-11-5 ... T Grantham
5 -00P HOLY JOE 23 (C,F,S) A J Wilson 11-11-5 ... B Clifford
6 45P4 SENDAI 14 (F,G,S) J Gifford 7-11-2 ... P Hide (3)
7 -111 KABAYIL 20 (G,S) C Egerton 4-10-10 ... A Procter (5)
8 4212 NED THE HALL 23 (BF,S) K Bailey 5-10-10 ... 2nd pref
9 -250 FOTOEXPRESS 51 (G,S) R Rowe 5-10-9 ... L Dace (7)
10 2021 NICK THE DREAMER 33 (D,F,G,S) W G M Turner 8-10-5 ... D Skyrme
11 61-5 ROVULENKA 47 (BF,S) M Pipe 5-10-3 ... J Lower
12 -131 FAIR BROTHER 14 (G,S) G Balding 7-10-3 ... R Davis (3)
13 1F-2 HEATHFIELD GALE 28 (BF,F,G) M Pipe 6-10-2 ... –
14 14/00 ROSITARY 9 (F,S) P Winkworth 10-10-0 ... C Maude
15 3U-14 BEYOND OUR REACH 23 (D,G) R Hodges 5-10-0 ... 2nd pref
16 2100 SPECIAL ACCOUNT 18 (G,S) C Barwell 7-10-0 ... R J Beggan
17 1P/6 FLYER'S NAP 17 (S) R Alner 7-10-0 ... S Earle
18 3122 GRAY'S ELLERGY 14 (G) D Gandolfo 7-10-0 ... 2nd pref
19 1-52 BROUGHTON'S TANGO 16 (F) M Hazmo-Ellis 4-10-0 ... S Keightley
20 1/2 ASWAMEDH 54 (G) P Hobbs 5-10-0 ... M Hourigan
21 -422 ISLAND JEWEL 12 (S) J Bosley 5-10-0 ... M Bosley
22 324- SHIMMERING SCARLET 205 (D,F,G) R Buckler 5-10-0 ... R Farrant (3)
23 -F05 MARIOLINO 12 (D,F,G,S) K Bishop 6-10-0 ... Mr G Hogan (7)
24 F/ SALMON PRINCE 821 (D,F) C Barwell 7-10-0 ... A Dicken (5)
25 15/6- FOUR STAR LINE 513 (C,F,S) W G M Turner 5-10-0 ... T Murphy (7)
26 1426 LITTLE BIG 27 (F,G) C Broad 6-10-0 ... A Flannigan (7)
5-1 Kabayil, 6-1 Rovulenka, 7-1 Nick The Dreamer, 8-1 Heathfield Gale, Fair Brother, 10-1 Aswamedh, 12-1 Gray's Ellergy, Sendai, 14-1 Lorna-Gail, Broughton's Tango, Flyer's Nap, 16-1 Island Jewel, 20-1 others.

2.10 MID SEASON CHASE (£7,133: 2m 5f) (6)

1 P-11 BARTON BANK 23 (D,G,S) D Nicholson 7-11-10 ... 2nd pref
2 -221 NEVADA GOLD 25 (D,F,G,S) F Yardley 7-11-6 ... 2nd pref
3 41-2 GAY RUFFIAN 9 (D,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-2 ... J Lower
4 4121 THATCHER ROCK 14 (CD,F,G,S) P Nicholls 8-11-2 ... C Maude
5 -210 THE MASTER GUNNER 25 (BF,G,S) K Bailey 9-11-2 ... R Davis
6 -114 MUDAHIM 16 (D,F,G,S) C Broad 7-10-10 ... I Lawrence
13-8 Gay Ruffian, 2-1 Thatcher Rock, 5-2 Mudahim, 8-1 The Master Gunner.

2.40 LORD STALBRIDGE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,536: 3m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 2/111 SEE MORE INDIANS 17 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 6-11-10 ... 2nd pref
2 2P-5 AUCTION LAW 65 (D,F,G,S) D Barons 9-11-7 ... R Davis (3)
3 14-0U GLOVE PUPPET 12 (G) G Balding 8-10-4 ... B Clifford
4 4-31 COOL AND EASY 18 (G,S) J Gifford 7-10-1 ... P Hide (3)
5 -140 UNDER OFFER 12 (B,CD,G,S) J King 12-10-0 Mr C Hancock (7)
6-4 Cool And Easy, 3-1 Glove Puppet, 7-2 Under Offer, 6-1 Auction Law.

3.10 STIRRUP CUP NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,250: 2m) (13)

1 0-32 KEEP ME IN MIND 14 N Mitchell 4-12-0 ... D Skyrme
2 /00 ORUJO 30 Miss H Knight 5-11-10 ... R Marley
3 5-02 MR JERVIS 25 J Gifford 4-11-4 ... P Hide (3)
4 02/1 JUMP START 24 (B) S Pike 6-11-3 ... A Dicken (5)
5 P-30 FIRST COMMAND 21 T Forster 6-11-2 ... R Farrant (3)
6 260 SHIRLEY'S TRAIN 18 (B) P Hobbs 4-11-1 ... N Parker (7)
7 4516 FRANKUS 23 (F,G) S Mellor 4-10-7 ... S Earle
8 -605 DUNNICKS VIEW 40 F Tucker 4-10-1 ... C Maude
9 P0P ANDARE 25 S Mellor 4-10-0 ... A Procter (5)
10 F6-0 MARY'S MUSIC 24 P Leach 5-10-0 ... M Hourigan
11 6-P5 LUCKY BLUE 24 (BF) R Hodges 6-10-0 ... T Thompson (7)
12 0-R0 CORPUS 18 R Hodges 4-10-0 ... I Lawrence
13 0-00 EARLY STAR 46 K Bishop 4-10-0 ... Mr G Hogan (7)
3-1 Jump Start, 9-2 Mr Jervis, 6-1 Keep Me In Mind, Orujo, 10-1 Frankus, Dunnicks View, 12-1 First Command, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs J Pitman, 21 winners from 60 runners, 35.0%; M Pipe, 33 from 114, 28.9%; D Nicholson, 13 from 55, 23.6%; A Turnell, 10 from 45, 22.2%; R Alner, 4 from 19, 21.1%; T Forster, 10 from 65, 15.4%.

JOCKEYS: J Lower, 8 winners from 22 rides, 36.4%; M Hourigan, 7 from 25, 28.0%; E Murphy, 4 from 29, 13.8%; R Farrant, 3 from 23, 13.0%; C Maude, 7 from 65, 10.8%. Only qualifiers.

MARKET RASEN

THUNDERER
12.55 What If. 1.30 Precipice Run. 2.00 Big Mac. 2.30 Loch Garanne. 3.05 All Jeff. 3.35 Indian River.

GOING: HEAVY, SOFT IN PLACES (8AM INSPECTION)

12.55 BBC RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,026: 2m 1f 110yd) (15 runners)

1 6P-0 WHAT IF 10 (CD,BF,F,G,S) O Brennan 9-11-10 ... M Brennan
2 35-0 BALLYLORD 28 (G,S) J J O'Neill 9-11-10 ... S Smith Eccles
3 32-0 COMEDY RIVER 14 (G) J Spearing 6-11-5 ... D Byrne
4 /634 IMMORTAL IRISH 39 (C,F) J Cresswell 8-11-1 ... Gary Lyons
5 00/51 GREENACRES LAD 10 (S) J Eyre 10-11-0 ... A Mulholland
6 5-PU RUN OF WELD 25 (G) F Yardley 10-10-9 ... L O'Hara
7 4040 PHALAROPE 18 (G) O Brennan 5-10-9 ... Mr A Walton
8 -603 TRISTAN'S COMET 18 (G) J Harris 6-10-7 ... –
9 02-3 CORLY SPECIAL 12 (F) K Burke 6-10-6 ... A Carroll
10 3004 ELDER PRINCE 10 (B,F,S) Ronald Thompson 7-10-4 ... W Worthington
11 5FP- POINT TAKEN 247 K Morgan 6-10-0 ... A S Smith
12 -024 LOXLEY RANGE 14 (BF,S) R Juckes 5-10-0 ... N Juckes (7)
13 PP0U HADLEIGHS CHOICE 18 J Mooney 6-10-0 ... Miss R Judge
14 00-6 HELLO VANOS 82 C Beever 5-10-0 ... 2nd pref
15 0046 ALIZARI 10 (B) J Mooney 4-10-0 ... M Robinson
4-1 Greenacres Lad, 5-1 Ballylord, Corley Special, 7-1 What If, 8-1 Comedy River, 10-1 Immortal Irish, Loxley Range, 12-1 Tristan's Comet, Elder Prince, 16-1 Alizari, Run Of Weld, Phalarope, 20-1 others.

1.30 GENERAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENT NOVICES CHASE (£2,975: 2m 4f) (9)

1 -3213 SHEILAS HILLCREST 38 (S) N Mason 7-11-11 ... J Supple (5)
2 /PU5 CALDECOTT 7 Mrs S Smith 7-11-5 ... Mr C Mulhall
3 30-4 HIGHLY DECORATED 10 (G) Mrs S Smith 8-11-5 ... Gary Lyons
4 P6-5 IRISH BAY 23 (F,G,S) C Egerton 7-11-5 ... D Byrne
5 P KINGLY LOOK 27 C Beever 6-11-5 ... Mr K Green
6 5-53 PETMER 18 (S) K Burke 6-11-5 ... –
7 1-34 PRECIPICE RUN 11 (G,S) G Richards 8-11-5 ... S Smith Eccles
8 P40- SOLO BUCK 298 Mrs V Aconley 7-11-0 ... C Woodall (7)
9 U-23 SPOONHILL WOOD 24 (B,BF) J Wharton 7-11-0 ... 2nd pref
4-5 Precipice Run, 3-1 Irish Bay, 6-1 Sheilas Hillcrest, 8-1 Petmer, 12-1 Highly Decorated, 20-1 others.

2.00 BRUCE CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY (Novices handicap chase: £3,066: 3m 1f) (8)

1 1152 DEEP DECISION 23 (C,G) P Cheesbrough 7-11-10 ... 2nd pref
2 0P01 PLAYFUL JULIET 10 (V,G,S) T Caldwell 5-11-0 ... Pat Caldwell
3 3462 SUPPOSIN 9 Mrs S Smith 5-10-10 ... Gary Lyons
4 660-4 BIG MAC 23 (F) M Hammond 6-10-10 ... S Smith Eccles
5 2-45 IRISH GENT 52 (F) P Cheesbrough 7-10-8 ... M Brennan
6 -P04 GUTE NACHT 10 S Campion 10-10-2 ... 2nd pref
7 4364 ON CUE 16 (B) M Chapman 6-10-1 ... W Worthington
8 FP5F CANTGETOUT 45 C Pinney 7-10-0 ... Mr A Pickering
7-4 Playful Juliet, 9-4 Big Mac, 4-1 Supposin, 8-1 Irish Gent, 10-1 On Cue, 20-1 Cantgetout.

2.30 KILVINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,626: 2m 3f 110yd) (12)

1 /43-0 SPROWSTON BOY 39 (F,G,S) M Chapman 10-12-0 ... C Burnett-Wells (5)
2 4-02 MIZYAN 14 (G) J Banks 5-11-12 ... J Twomey (5)
3 PP-1 OUR SLIMBRIDGE 41 (C,G,S) C Williams 5-11-7 ... A Carroll
4 10-0 LOCH GARANNE 23 (S) M Camacho 5-11-6 ... D Byrne
5 -033 FOX CHAPEL 18 (C,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-6 G Tormey (7)
6 1-61 GYMCRAK SOVEREIGN 10 (C,G,S) G Holmes 5-11-1 ... R Marley
7 F-P1 NELTEGRITY 10 (S) T Caldwell 4-11-0 ... Peter Caldwell
8 2P-0 LIABILITY ORDER 56 (C,S) M Hammond 4-10-9 S Smith Eccles
9 22-0 ISABEAU 28 (C,F,G) K Morgan 6-10-8 ... A S Smith
10 3-56 PERSONAL HAZARD 11 (B,S) M H Easterby 4-10-5 ... M Brennan
11 2240 BALAAT 39 (F) M Chapman 5-10-0 ... W Worthington
12 P530 MILLIE 5 J Mooney 5-10-0 ... M Robinson
4-1 Gymcrak Sovereign, 5-1 Our Slimbridge, 11-2 Mizyan, 7-1 Loch Garanne, 8-1 Fox Chapel, Neltegrity, 10-1 Liability Order, 12-1 Personal Hazard, 14-1 Isabeau, Sprowston Boy, 16-1 Balaat, 25-1 Millie.

3.05 LINCOLNSHIRE NATIONAL (Handicap chase: £7,263: 4m 1f) (12)

1 -321 ALL JEFF 18 (F,G,S) C Brooks 9-11-7 ... S Smith Eccles
2 5113 STAY ON TRACKS 18 (F,G,S) Mrs D Haine 11-11-2 ... Mr N King (7)
3 3-01 PORTONIA 38 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-13 Mr M Buckley (5)
4 3-F4 POLAR REGION 16 (F,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-10 ... G Tormey (7)
5 -014 HIGH PADRE 37 (BF,F,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-4 ... 2nd pref
6 534F SIRRAH JAY 11 (F,G,S) K Burke 13-10-1 ... –
7 6-54 BROMPTON ROAD 11 (D,G,S) R Lee 10-10-0 ... D Byrne
8 3244 SMOOTH ESCORT 23 (B,S) Mrs D Haine 9-10-0 ... –
9 41-5 BARKIN 31 (C,G,S) G Richards 10-10-0 ... L O'Hara
10 24-5 DIAMOND FORT 41 (S) J McConnochie 8-10-0 ... M Brennan
11 3-64 DUBIOUS JAKE 9 (CD,F,S) R Woodhouse 10-10-0 ... C Burnett-Wells (5)
12 0/PP NINE BROTHERS 9 C Beever 9-10-0 ... 2nd pref
9-4 All Jeff, 4-1 Portonia, 6-1 Stay On Tracks, 7-1 Polar Region, Brompton Road, 12-1 Barkin, Smooth Escort, 14-1 Sirrah Jay, 16-1 Dubious Jake, Diamond Fort.

3.35 LINCS FM NOVICES HURDLE (£2,653: 2m 1f 110yd) (14)

1 3-61 VASILIEV 19 (V,S) M Hammond 5-11-12 ... 2nd pref
2 41 APRIL CITY 24 (S) C Smith 4-11-7 ... M Ranger
3 4 BIRD WATCHER 18 M Hammond 4-11-6 ... S Smith Eccles
4 10-0 HOLD YOUR HAT ON 52 (G) C Thornton 4-11-6 ... D Wilkinson
5 20-0 INDIAN RIVER 21 Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-6 ... D Byrne
6 /0P LAZY RHYTHM 11F J Eyre 7-11-6 ... S Turner
7 5P-P LEARNED STAR 17 J Eyre 8-11-6 ... A Mulholland
8 /33 SWIFT ROMANCE 14 (BF) G Barnett 5-11-6 ... S Wynne (3)
9 PP0- TIP NAP 234 Mrs S Smith 5-11-6 ... Gary Lyons
10 F-04 MRS NORMAN 20 A Potts 4-11-1 ... L O'Hara
11 6213 RECORD LOVER 13F (D,F) M Chapman 3-10-12 W Worthington
12 FP EVE'S TREASURE 17 S Campion 3-10-1 ... R Marley
13 U RUMPUS 14 C Broad 3-10-1 ... A Carroll
14 30 WAMDHA 25 K Morgan 3-10-1 ... A S Smith
3-1 Swift Romance, 9-2 Bird Watcher, Rumpus, 11-2 Indian River, 7-1 Wamdha, 10-1 April City, Record Lover, 12-1 Mrs Norman, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 22 winners from 63 runners, 34.9%; M H Easterby, 22 from 66, 33.3%; G Richards, 7 from 22, 31.8%; C Brooks, 4 from 13, 30.8%; P Cheesbrough, 3 from 10, 30.0%; C Thornton, 6 from 21, 28.6%.

JOCKEYS: S Smith Eccles, 13 winners from 30 rides, 43.3%; D Byrne, 17 from 87, 19.5%; L O'Hara, 3 from 19, 15.8%; M Brennan, 16 from 128, 12.5%; A S Smith, 6 from 57, 10.5%; Gary Lyons, 6 from 60, 10.0%.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
1.35 Master Beveled. 2.05 Causley. 2.35 Gold Blade. 3.05 Rocketeer. 3.35 Success Story. 4.05 Absolutely Nuts. 4.35 Maamur.

GOING: STANDARD SIS (FIRST FIVE RACES)
DRAW: LOW NUMBERS MAY BE FAVOURED

1.35 GUNNEBO PROTECTION LIMITED STAKES (£2,758: 7f) (12 runners)

1 2242 EXPRESS SERVICE 12 (B,D,G) W O'Gorman 4-9-0 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 7
2 0310 LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 9 (B,D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 7-9-0 ... K Darley 2
3 -006 LILLAH DARAK 34 (F) A Jones 5-9-0 ... Claire Balding (7) 10
4 4620 MASTER HYDE 210 (D,G) P Mitchell 4-9-0 ... Paul Eddery 4
5 0303 STATE FLYER 13 (G,S) G Oldroyd 5-9-0 ... S Webster 9
6 6000 HERSHEBAR 11 (B,G) S Bowring 3-8-13 ... G Strange (7) 6
7 4051 MAKE MINE A DOUBLE 11 (F,G) D Nicholls 3-8-13 ... Alex Greaves 5
8 3114 MASTER BEVELED 9 (D,G) P Evans 3-8-13 ... S Sanders (5) 1
9 4135 MUSTN'T GRUMBLE 25 (B,G) B Beasley 3-8-13 ... J Williams 8
10 0203 MALCESINE 58 (F) J H Wilson 4-8-9 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 11
11 0013 SCOTTISH PARK 12 (D,F,G) J Harris 4-8-9 ... T Williams 12
12 4005 SPLASH OF SALT 12 (G) T Naughton 3-8-8 ... J Quinn 3
9-2 Express Service, 11-2 Make Mine A Double, 6-1 Master Beveled, 8-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, Mustn't Grumble, Scottish Park, Splash Of Salt, 10-1 others.

2.05 BOWMER & KIRKLAND CLAIMING STAKES (£2,954: 7f) (12)

1 4061 SEA DEVIL 34 (F,G,S) M Camacho 7-9-6 ... L Charnock 1
2 1050 CAUSLEY 13 (D,F,G,S) B McMahon 8-9-2 ... S Sanders (5) 6
3 3000 SAVAHRA SOUND 13 (V,D,F,G,S) S Bowring 8-9-2 T Williams 9
4 5000 PAIR OF JACKS 25 (G) W Muir 3-9-1 ... J Quinn 5
5 2060 RESPECTABLE JONES 19 (D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-8-12 ... Paul Eddery 12
6 0002 SUPER BENZ 34 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) B Beasley 7-8-12 J Fanning 11
7 0500 CONISTON LAKE 41 (D,F) G L Moore 4-8-10 ... B Rouse 7
8 60-0 WSOM 41J (D,F) J Carr 5-8-10 ... A Clark 4
9 2515 MAID WELCOME 30 (V,D,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 6-8-7 K Darley 3
10 5150 WORKINGFORPEANUTS 119 (V,D,F) C Smith 3-8-7 M Wigham 2
11 0000 DYNAMIC GEORGE 6 (B) N Callaghan 3-8-5 ... A Mackay 8
12 0000 WHYALLA RAIN 6 D Laing 3-8-4 ... NON-RUNNER 10
7-4 Sea Devil, 7-2 Super Benz, 6-1 Causley, 7-1 Respectable Jones, 10-1 others.

2.35 TOTE ALL-WEATHER HANDICAP (£8,656: 1m 1f 79yd) (13)

1 2110 SPENCER'S REVENGE 275 (G) Lord Huntingdon 4-10-0 ... B Rouse 6
2 1523 MULCIBER 6 (F,G) G Harwood 5-9-9 ... C Rutter 3
3 0484 RAPPORTEUR 28 (F,G,S) C C Elsey 7-9-6 ... NON-RUNNER 5
4 1013 TEMPERING 26 (BF,F,G) D Chapman 7-9-8 ... D Pears (3) 2
5 0014 MENTALASANYTHIN 8 (G,S) A Bailey 4-9-6 ... A Mackay 11
6 0110 BEVERLY KNIGHT 13 (G) D Murray Smith 3-9-3 ... K Darley 8
7 5121 LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 19 (D,F,G) Bob Jones 5-9-2 ... M Wigham 7
8 0016 PERFAY 12 (BF,G,S) D Wilson 5-9-0 ... J Williams 10
9 5000 SIRTELIMAR 49 (G) R Spicer 4-8-12 ... A Clark 13
10 2624 WORDSMITH 32J (BF,G) D Burchell 3-8-11 ... –
11 0226 CERTAIN WAY 192 (G) D Kent 3-8-10 ... S D Williams 4
12 5365 GOLD BLADE 19 (F,G) N Graham 4-8-7 ... J Weaver 9
13 4000 AWESTRUCK 35 (F,G,S) B Preece 3-8-4 ... T Wall 12
7-2 Lookingforarainbow, 5-1 Mulciber, Tempering, 6-1 Gold Blade, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

BASED ON TURF MEETINGS

TRAINERS: G Harwood, 8 winners from 22 runners, 36.4%; Lord Huntingdon, 4 from 16, 25.0%; J Fanshawe, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Spearing, 7 from 46, 15.2%; P Cole, 5 from 38, 13.2%; J Berry, 16 from 126, 12.7%.

JOCKEYS: A Clark, 5 winners from 32 rides, 15.6%; K Darley, 4 from 26, 15.4%; Dale Gibson, 4 from 40, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

3.05 BUCKNELL AUSTIN NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £5,744: 6f) (10)

1 0214 WORLD TRAVELLER 18 (B,D,BF,G) W O'Gorman 9-7 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 3
2 6410 PALACEGATE JO 62 (D,G,S) J Berry 9-7 ... P Roberts (7) 8
3 3064 DANCE OF THE SWANS 100 (G,S) D Kent 9-6 ... Dale Gibson 7
4 1001 PHONEAHOLIC 9 (B,D,G) B Meehan 9-4 ... B Rouse 6
5 0353 WINDOW DISPLAY 9 (S) Mrs N Macauley 8-8 ... K Darley 4
6 0000 LUCKY FOURTEEN 82 (G) D Chapman 8-3 ... J Fanning 9
7 0000 ROCKETEER 12 (B) W Muir 8-2 ... Kim McDonnell 1
8 3433 JUST GREENWICH 12 P Evans 7-13 ... J Quinn 5
9 5000 BLUE DOMAIN 54 R Hollinshead 7-12 ... M Humphries (7) 2
10 0050 MAZ 19 A Bailey 7-11 ... A Mackay 10
3-1 World Traveller, 9-2 Palacegate Jo, Phoneaholic, 5-1 Just Greenwich, 6-1 Window Display, 8-1 Rocketeer, 14-1 Dance Of The Swans, 20-1 others.

3.35 NEW FIBRESAND ALL-WEATHER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,720: 1m 100yd) (12)

1 000 GOLD'N SHROUD 13 T Thomson Jones 9-0 ... J Williams 6
2 4004 GRANDEE 11 B McMahon 9-0 ... J Bramhill (7) 10
3 44 MYTTON'S CHOICE 13 A Bailey 9-0 ... S Whitworth 9
4 6053 REGAL RAMBLER 13 L Barratt 9-0 ... S Sanders (5) 12
5 0 RUB AL KHALI 6 D Laing 9-0 ... NON-RUNNER 4
6 0642 UPPER GROSVENOR 11 P Cole 9-0 ... C Rutter 7
7 0095 VAYELLO 13 (B) C Smith 9-0 ... K Rutter (5) 2
8 000 WENLOCH LAD 49 J Peacock 9-0 ... T Wall 5
9 WILD ACE N Graham 9-0 ... J Weaver 11
10 0202 WINN'S PRIDE 13 (BF) R Hollinshead 9-0 ... Paul Eddery 8
11 DANCE STEPPE J Spearing 8-9 ... A Mackay 1
12 4 SUCCESS STORY 91 Lord Huntingdon 8-9 ... K Darley 3
3-1 Upper Grosvenor, 4-1 Winn's Pride, 9-2 Success Story, 6-1 Regal Rambler, 8-1 Mytton's Choice, 12-1 Wild Ace, Vayello, 14-1 others.

4.05 MUSCO LIGHTING FIRST EVER FLOODLIT IN GREAT BRITAIN HANDICAP (£3,132: 6f) (13)

1 0046 PETRACO 11 (D,G,S) N Smith 5-9-10 ... S D Williams 6
2 0000 SHADOW JURY 28 (B,F,G,S) D Chapman 3-9-9 ... K Darley 1
3 4003 JULIET BRAVO 53 (F) J Fanshawe 3-9-3 ... J Quinn 9
4 0056 NOBBY BARNES 9 (D,G) D Wilson 4-9-3 ... J Williams 10
5 0050 ABSOLUTELY NUTS 13 (D,G) P Evans 4-8-13 ... T Williams 3
6 0303 FARMER JOCK 11 (C,D,F,S) Mrs N Macauley 11-8-12 A Clark 12
7 0010 SIMMIE'S SPECIAL 72 (G,S) R Hollinshead 5-8-11 A Garth (5) 7
8 0000 STRIP CARTOON 11 (V,D,G,S) S Bowring 5-8-11 ... G Strange (7) 13
9 -000 GLENCROFT 11 (B,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 9-8-7 ... J Fanning 5
10 4000 OUR MICA 35 (B,G,S) L Barratt 3-8-6 ... N Adams 11
11 1-02 BATTLING BELLA 8 (D) G L Moore 4-8-5 ... Mark Denaro (7) 2
12 0300 LAST STRAW 13 (B,D,G) A Jones 5-8-4 ... Paul Eddery 8
13 0026 TAKE IT IN CASH 6 R Dickin 4-8-1 ... C Rutter 4
7-2 Petraco, 4-1 Juliet Bravo, 5-1 Battling Bella, 7-1 Farmer Jock, Nobby Barnes, 10-1 Simmie's Special, Strip Cartoon, 12-1 others.

4.35 WOLVERHAMPTON TEC/CITY CHALLENGE HANDICAP (£3,290: 2m 46yd) (10)

1 0030 DIME BAG 25J (D,BF,G) J Edwards 4-10-0 ... K Darley 5
2 0610 FIVE TO SEVEN 72 (D,G,S) C Thornton 4-9-4 ... D Pears (3) 3
3 23-0 MAAMUR 23J (G) D Burchell 5-9-3 ... R Price 1
4 -420 QUALITAIR AVIATOR 13 (D,F,G) J Bottomley 7-8-12 ... G Bardwell 8
5 0000 IOTA 51 (C,D,G,S) J Harris 4-8-12 ... Paul Eddery 4
6 0000 DOC SPOT 72 J H Wilson 3-8-4 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 10
7 4431 MRS JAWLEYFORD 13 (D,G) C Smith 5-7-13 ... M Baird (7) 2
8 0054 EUROTWIST 11 (BF,G,S) T Barron 4-7-12 ... J Fanning 7
9 2310 ANN HILL 28 (F,G) R Hollinshead 3-7-7 ... A Garth (5) 9
10 3405 ENFANT DU PARADIS 28 (G) P Evans 5-7-7 ... J Quinn 6
3-1 Five To Seven, 7-2 Mrs Jawleyford, 5-1 Eurotwist, Maamur, 7-1 Dime Bag, 10-1 Ann Hill, 12-1 Qualitair Aviator, 16-1 others.

☐ Today's meeting on the new all-weather track at Wolverhampton stages the first races under floodlights in Britain. The last two races on the card are to be run under lights, but will not be shown live by SIS.

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Nicholson team to triumph in Kempton showpiece

Barton Bank can crown Maguire's glorious year

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

ADRIAN Maguire, the country's outstanding jump jockey, believes **Barton Bank** can crown his fantastic year by winning the King George VI Tripleprint Chase at Kempton this afternoon.

The David Nicholson-trained chaser, unbeaten in his six completed starts over fences, is improving fast, has a high cruising speed and is sufficiently adaptable to handle any ground.

The only slight worry is a tendency to put in one sloppy jump during a race but in a slightly below standard King George where there are question marks against all the leading contenders he is worth risking — especially with the "golden child" in the saddle.

Maguire said yesterday: "Barton Bank has run and won twice this season and, apart from one mistake each time, he has jumped well. He could not be described as a natural jumper, and never will be, but he jumps well enough and has his own way of doing things.

"I schooled Barton Bank on Thursday and he was fine. He likes to bowl along in front but when he goes around Kempton there will be plenty of front runners and I don't think he has to make it. He has a very high cruising speed and with the strong gallop being on in the race it will suit him to sit in behind. I think my horse has a big chance. If he shows the same form as when winning the Charlie Hall Chase at Wetherby, he will be hard to beat."

The recent Ascot winner, Young Hustler, has been well backed in recent days and is now the 3-1 favourite with most leading firms, having displaced The Fellow at the head of the market. There is considerable confidence behind Nigel Twiston-Davies's tough, front-running performer. However, he has to show improved form to win today, and it is worth recalling that Barton Bank handed out a seven-length beating to Young Hustler at Cheltenham just over 12 months ago when conceding weight.

If The Fellow is back to his best, he will be hard to beat around a course which suits him so well. Although only eight, the French chaser been jumping fences for nearly five years and may be past his best. There have been problems with broken blood vessels and the fitting of blinkers hardly inspires confidence.

Bradbury Star reserves his best form for Cheltenham and is ideally suited by fast ground, a point reflected by the significant support with Ladbrokes yesterday. He was cut from 7-1 to 9-2. Docklands Express, who ran with promise on his seasonal debut at Doncaster recently, is another who will appreciate the forecast ground conditions.

Of the outsiders, Travado has the best claims by far, and is overpriced by bookmakers. Being a son of Strong Gale, the Arkle Trophy winner should have reasonable prospects of staying three miles. The Nicky Henderson-trained runner worked nicely on Thursday and Jamie Osborne is hopeful of a bold showing.

At Wetherby, punters will not get rich if **One Man** and **Last 'O' The Bunch** land a short-priced double, as expected, for Gordon Richards. However, there may be value to be had in the Rowland Meyrick Chase, where **Carbisdale** is slightly preferred ahead of his more fancied stable companion Mr Boston after an emphatic defeat of Dublin Flyer at Doncaster.

Sailors Luck has prospered this season and is still on a winning mark, despite falling last time out. He can oblige in the Harry Dufosee Handicap at Wincanton, where **Cool And Easy** is taken to follow up a recent Fakenham victory in the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Gold Cup.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: TISSISAT
(12.45 Kempton Park)
Next best: Barton Bank
(2.20 Kempton Park)



Maguire predicts a bold show from Barton Bank

BIG-RACE FIELD

2.20 KING GEORGE VI TRIPLEPRINT CHASE C4
(Grade I: £51,780: 3m) (11 runners)

401 2112-P0 ANOTHER CORAL 18 (C,F,G,S) (M Deeley) D Nicholson 10-11-10 .... 2nd pref 89
(Maroon, white sleeves, orange & white quartered cap)
402 1F1P-11 BARTON BANK 23 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 7-11-10 .... A Maguire 89
(Emerald green, white star, emerald green cap, white star)
403 21F1-13 BLACK HUMOUR 30 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) C Brooks 9-11-10. G Bradley 83
(Pink & grey diamonds, pink cap)
404 4223-11 BRADBURY STAR 44 (C,F,G,S) (J Campbell) J Gifford 8-11-10 .... D Murphy 98
(Royal blue, red braces, red cap)
405 B1411-3 DOCKLANDS EXPRESS 16 (CD,F,G,S) (R Baines) K Bailey 11-11-10 ... N Williamson 97
(Royal blue, yellow braces, hooped sleeves, yellow cap)
406 121-221 NEVADA GOLD 25 (F,G,S) (Maltsword Ltd) F Yardley 7-11-10 .... D Gallagher 80
(Red, white triple diamond, red sleeves, white seams, red cap, white diamond)
407 0111/F ROLLING BALL 30 (D,S) (Mrs H Clarke) M Pipe 10-11-10 .... R Dunwoody —
(Black & white stripes, emerald green & white striped sleeves)
408 454-533 THE FELLOW 43 (B,CD,G,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) F Doumen (Fr) 8-11-10 A Kondrat 89
(Red, light green cap)
409 111-114 TRAVADO 23 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs M Emever) N Henderson 7-11-10 .... J Osborne 91
(Yellow & dark blue diamonds, white sleeves, yellow cap, white star)
410 213-221 YOUNG HUSTLER 9 (D,F,G,S) (G MacEchern) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-10 .. C Llewellyn 95
(Dark blue, yellow stripe, yellow sleeves, dark blue armlets & star on yellow cap)
411 11V3-54 ZETA'S LAD 30 (CD,F,G,S) (A Cohen) J Upson 10-11-10 .... R Supple 82
(Royal blue, white star, white stars on sleeves & cap)

BETTING: 3-1 Young Hustler, 7-2 The Fellow, 9-2 Barton Bank, 6-1 Bradbury Star, 7-1 Black Humour, 14-1 Rolling Ball, 16-1 Travado, Docklands Express, 20-1 Zeta's Lad, 50-1 Nevada Gold.

1992: THE FELLOW 7-11-10 A Kondrat (Evens fav) F Doumen (Fr) 8 ran

Detailed form guide

BARTON BANK
Dec 4, Sandown, good. (11-10) beat Cab On Target (11-10) 20l (3m 110yd ch, £7,008, 2 ran).
Oct 30 Wetherby, good. (11-2) beat Cab On Target (11-2) 2l (3m 110yd grade II ch, £15,440, 7 ran).
Mar 17, Cheltenham, good to firm: see Young Hustler.

BLACK HUMOUR
Nov 27, Newbury, good (11-0) 5½l 3rd to Cogent (10-8), with Zeta's Lad (4lb better off) 6l 4th and Rolling Ball (11lb worse off) fell 3rd (3m 2f 110yd grade III h'cap ch, £35,152, 9 ran).
Oct 16, Kempton, good. (11-0) beat Sibton Abbey (11-9) a distance (3m h'cap ch, £11,450, 11 ran).

BRADBURY STAR
Nov 13, Cheltenham, soft: (11-8) beat Egypt Mill Prince (10-3) 7l (2m 4f 110yd grade II h'cap ch, £32,143, 15 ran).
Oct 20, Cheltenham, good: (11-7) beat Garisson Savannah (11-7) 1½l (2m 5f h'cap ch, £4,143, 4 ran).
Feb 27, Kempton, good: see Zeta's Lad.

DOCKLANDS EXPRESS
Dec 11, Doncaster, good. (12-0) 13½l 3rd to Carbisdale (10-0) (3m 2f h'cap ch, £5,638, 4 ran).
May 31, Fakenham, good: (12-10) beat Red Columbia (11-12) 2l (2m 5f 110yd amateurs' ch, £3,035, 4 ran).
May 8, Warwick, good to firm: (12-0) beat Garisson Savannah (10-12) (3m 2f ch, £3,948, 5 ran).
Feb 27, Kempton, good: see Zeta's Lad.

NEVADA GOLD
Dec 2, Uttoxeter, good: (10-11) beat Thatcher Rock (10-4) 1½l (2m 5f h'cap ch, £3,469, 8 ran).

ROLLING BALL
Nov 27, Newbury, good: see Black Humour.
Nov 30 1991, Chepstow, soft: (11-10) beat Canaveer (10-12) (2m 4f ch, £4,080, 5 ran).

THE FELLOW
Nov 14, Auteuil, heavy: (10-4) 11l 3rd to Al Capone (10-8) (3m 3f 110yd ch, £71,685, 4 ran).
Oct 16, Auteuil, heavy (10-3) disqualified and placed 3rd after beating Ucello II (11-2) 1½l (2m 6f ch, £35,842, 8 ran).

TRAVADO
Dec 4, Sandown, good (12-0) 9l 4th to Sybillin (11-9) (2m grade II h'cap ch, £15,550, 7 ran).
Nov 23, Huntingdon, good to soft (11-9) beat Deep Sensation (11-9) 7l (2m 4f 110yd grade II ch, £11,088, 4 ran).

YOUNG HUSTLER
Dec 18, Ascot, good to soft: (11-10) beat Latent Talent (11-4) 6l (3m 110yd h'cap ch, £23,207, 8 ran).
Dec 11, Cheltenham, good: (11-1) 3l 2nd to Fragrant Dawn (10-2), with Another Coral (11-7) 97l 10th (2m 5f grade III h'cap ch, £21,215, 11 ran)
Oct 21, Wincanton, good to firm: (11-8) 5l 2nd to Panto Prince (11-8) (2m 5f grade II ch, £15,550, good to firm).
Apr 2, Aintree, firm, (11-8) 13l 3rd to Cab On Target (11-3) (3m 1f nov ch, £20,976, 4 ran).
Mar 17, Cheltenham, good to firm, (11-4) beat Superior Finish (11-4) 3l, with Barton Bank pulled up (3m 1f grade I nov ch, £42,935, 8 ran).

ZETA'S LAD
Nov 27, Newbury, good: see Black Humour.
Nov 13, Cheltenham, soft: (11-8) 16l 5th to Royal Athlete (12-0) (3m 3f 110yd h'cap ch, £7,133, 8 ran).
Apr 12, Fairyhouse, soft (11-5) 5½l 3rd to Ebony Jane (10-7) (3m 5f h'cap ch, £55,200, 27 ran).
Feb 27, Kempton, good: (10-10) beat Docklands Express (12-0) 1½l, with Bradbury Star (10-10) neck 3rd (3m grade II h'cap ch, £28,110, good).

Selection: THE FELLOW

KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER
12.45 Corrouge
1.15 Coulton
1.45 Clurican
2.20 YOUNG HUSTLER (nap)
2.50 Monsieur Le Cure
3.20 Hurricane Blake

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.45 BONUSPHOTO NOVICES HURDLE C4
(£5,845: 2m) (13 runners)

101 2131 MAN TO MAN 10 (S) (S Clarke) F Doumen (Fr) 6-11-5 .... A Kondrat 90
102 343/F1 MY WIZARD 24 (D,G) (Mrs A Bredie) J Gifford 6-11-5 .... D Murphy 78
103 12332F BILLY BORU 16 (D,F,S) (R Butler) Mrs M Long 5-11-0 .... D Gallagher 90
104 1F CORROUGE 16 (D,BF,G) (M Gates) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-0 .... C Llewellyn 91
105 53-12 DOMINANT FORCE 23 (F) (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 4-11-0 .... M Perrett 80
106 DUKE OF EUROLINK 121F (Eurolink Group Plc) M Pipe 4-11-0 .... R Dunwoody —
107 4 FLIGHT LIEUTENANT 30 (P & S Lever Partners) R Hannon 4-11-0 .... G Bradley 82
108 1225 NATIVE CHIEFTAN 45 (D,F) (Mrs S Crowe) S Dow 4-11-0 .... H Davies 89
109 00 ROCA MURADA 25 (B Brooks) D Nicholson 4-11-0 .... A Maguire —
110 1 SHUJAN 9 (D,S) (Sir Eric Parker) R Akehurst 4-11-0 .... G McCourt 71
111 2 SYLVAN SABRE 12F (V) (Exors Sir William Gardhwaite) P Mitchell 4-11-0 .... J Osborne 79
112 1 TISSISAT 28 (D,G) (U Schwarzenbach) I Balding 4-11-0 .... J Frost 81
113 032-4 VITAL WONDER 87 (K Costello) D Elsworth 5-11-0 .... P Holley 53

BETTING: 3-1 Man To Man, 7-2 Shujan, 5-1 Duke Of Eurolink, 6-1 Tissisat, 8-1 Corrouge, Flight Lieutenant, 14-1 My Wizard, 20-1 Billy Boru, Dominant Force, Native Chieftan, Sylvan Sabre, 25-1 others.

1992: SATIN LOVER 4-11-5 G McCourt (4-5 fav) N Tinkler 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAN TO MAN beat Fun Money 20l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). MY WIZARD beat Brief Gale 3l in a 21-runner novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). BILLY BORU 1½l 2nd of 19 to Bond Jnr in a novice hurdle at Chepstow on penultimate start (2m 110yd, soft). CORROUGE beat General Tonic 6l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good), with ROCA MURADA tailed off. FLIGHT LIEUTENANT 13½l 4th of 19 to Large Action in a novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). NATIVE CHIEFTAN 1l 2nd of 10 to Middle Marker in a conditions hurdle at Newbury on penultimate start (2m 110yd, good). SHUJAN beat Rafters 10l in an 11-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, heavy). TISSISAT beat Time For A Flutter 2l in an 18-runner novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, good).
Selection: MAN TO MAN

1.15 TRIPLEPRINT FELTHAM NOVICES CHASE C4
(Grade I: £19,140: 3m) (7 runners)

201 1B14-04 ANDREW'S FIRST 19 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Hancock) M Wilkinson 6-11-7 .... C Llewellyn —
202 0-1U112 COULTON 16 (F,G,S) (G Shouler) M W Easterby 6-11-7 .... R Dunwoody 89
203 33-2111 CRYSTAL SPIRIT 16 (F,G,S) (P Mellon) I Balding 6-11-7 .... J Frost 97
204 3F4-421 GOLDEN FARE 46 (F) (N Barrowclough) R Lee 8-11-7 .... N Williamson 71
205 00-PU ONE MORE RUN 11 (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) G Balding 6-11-7 .... Craig Thornton —
206 522/111 SEE MORE INDIANS 17 (F,G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 6-11-7 .... G Bradley 87
207 245U-12 SPIKEY 24 (D,G) (S Powell) J Jenkins 7-11-7 .... A Maguire 84

BETTING: 7-4 Crystal Spirit, 2-1 Coulton, 3-1 See More Indians, 10-1 Spikey, 14-1 Andrew's First, 20-1 Golden Fare, 33-1 One More Run.

1992: DAKYNS BOY 7-11-7 P Scudamore (9-2) N Twiston-Davies 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANDREW'S FIRST 14l 4th of 18 to Barely Black in a novice chase at Worcester (3m 4f 110yd, heavy). COULTON beat Keep Sharp 15l in a 3-runner novice chase at Aintree on penultimate start (2m 4f, good).
CRYSTAL SPIRIT beat COULTON (4lb better off) 1½l in a 5-runner novice chase at Cheltenham last time out (2m 5f, good). Previously, beat Judged Lucky 12l in an 8-runner novice chase at Newbury (3m 4f, good).
GOLDEN FARE beat Abu Mustab ¾l in a 12-runner novice's handicap chase at Taunton (2m 3f, good to firm). SEE MORE INDIANS beat Earth Summit 2½l in a 5-runner novice chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good). Previously, beat Run Up The Flag 30l in the 8-runner grade II Aga Novices' Chase at Worcester (2m 7f, good).
SPIKEY 2½l 2nd of 6 to Yorkshire Gale in a novice chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good). Previously, beat Fiveleigh First ¾l in a 7-runner novice's handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good).
Selection: CRYSTAL SPIRIT

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
T Thomson Jones	9	23	39.1	W Marston	3	6	50.0
N Tinkler	5	17	29.4	R Dunwoody	29	116	25.0
N Henderson	17	68	25.0	J Osborne	23	106	21.7
O Sherwood	13	52	25.0	G McCourt	12	61	19.7
M Pipe	14	57	24.6	M Perrett	9	62	14.5
G Harwood	5	23	21.7	J Frost	7	50	14.0

1.45 BONUSPRINT HANDICAP HURDLE C4
(£4,403: 2m) (11 runners)

301 2232-83 KILCASH 9 (B,D,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 5-12-0 .... M Richards 94
302 0P810/ HONEST WORD 655 (D,G,S) (Mrs H Clarke) M Pipe 8-11-8 .... R Dunwoody —
303 1512-34 AMAZON EXPRESS 30 (CD,G) (Mrs J Mees) R Akehurst 4-11-6 .... J Osborne 95
304 311-210 ARABIAN BOLD 23 (D,F,G,S) (Sheikh Amin Dahlawi) N Henderson 5-11-3 N Williamson 85
305 1/134-60 JIMMY THE GILLIE 23 (CD,F,G,S) (N Robinson) S Christian 7-10-12 .... DOUBTFUL —
306 14348-0 SHARRIBA 9 (D,S) (Non-Stop Promotions Ltd) G Humphrey 4-10-5 .... C Llewellyn 94
307 224642 CHILD OF THE MIST 18 (D,BF,G,S) (J Whyte) John Whyte 7-10-2 .... A Maguire 98
308 01-0455 CORRIN HILL 14 (S) (B Frooms) R Hodges 8-10-2 .... G McCourt 89
309 60P042 CLURICAN 10 (D,S) (P Grundy) N Tinkler 4-10-0 .... D Murphy 98
310 65-3F31 TOP WAVE 13 (D,G,S) (A Callies) N Henderson 5-10-0 .... 2nd pref 91
311 60-2313 MONDAY CLUB 17 (D,F,G) (J Tuck) J Tuck 9-10-0 .... D Meade (7) 93

Long handicap: Top Wave 9-13, Monday Club 9-12.

BETTING: 4-1 Clurican, 9-2 Honest Word, 5-1 Kilcash, 6-1 Amazon Express, 7-1 Child Of The Mist, Arabian Bold, 8-1 Monday Club, 14-1 Corrin Hill, 16-1 Sharriba.

1992: NOBLE INSIGHT 5-10-2 P Scudamore (25-1) M Pipe 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

KILCASH 13l 3rd of 8 to Absalom's Lady in a conditions hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good), with SHARRIBA (11lb better off) tailed off 7th. AMAZON EXPRESS 20½l 4th of 5 to Bold Boss in the grade II Gerry Feilden Hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). Previously, ¾l 2nd of 25 to Shawiya in the grade I Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham last season (2m 1f, good to firm), with CLURICAN (20lb better off) 15½l 15th.
ARABIAN BOLD's best recent effort came when ¾l 2nd of 5 to Staunch Friend in a conditions hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good), with AMAZON EXPRESS (4lb better off) 8l 3rd. CHILD OF THE MIST neck 2nd of 9 to Cardinal Bird in a handicap hurdle Fakenham (2m 110yd). CLURICAN 3l 2nd of 12 to Gymcrak Sovereign in a handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, soft). TOP WAVE beat My Senor 15l in a 5-runner handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, soft). MONDAY CLUB 6½l 3rd of 7 to Sand-Dollar in a handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good).
Selection: AMAZON EXPRESS

2.20 KING GEORGE VI TRIPLEPRINT CHASE C4
(Grade I: £51,780: 3m) (11 runners)

RUNNERS & RIDERS — SEE RIGHT

2.50 BONUSFILM WAYWARD LAD NOVICES CHASE C4
(£8,364: 2m 4f 110yd) (10 runners)

501 13-1244 GHIA GNEUIAGH 16 (G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-4 .... C Llewellyn 98
502 F/24P13 POPPETS PET 9 (D,G) (D Line) J Mullins 6-11-4 .... S Hodgson 87
503 20-F2P1 RUN UP THE FLAG 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 6-11-4 .... D Murphy 73
504 60-2313 THE GLOW 16 (G) (Mrs T Brown) D Elsworth 5-11-4 .... P Holley 89
505 458-123 BAS DE LAINE 38 (C,D,F,G) (R Bids Ltd) O Sherwood 7-11-0 .... J Osborne —
506 6446-2 DANTE'S NEPHEW 47 (H Photo) M McCormack 6-11-0 .... R Dunwoody —
507 4853-42 FANTUS 30 (BF,G) (Hunt & Co (Bournemouth) Ltd) P Nicholls 6-11-0 .... G Bradley 84
508 31133/3 HANGOVER 27 (G,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) R Lee 7-11-0 .... A Maguire 74
509 212-2F4 MONSIEUR LE CURE 9 (G,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 7-11-0 .... N Williamson 89
510 22F4-36 MUSIC SCORE 187 (D,G) (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 7-11-0 .... Mr M Armytage —

BETTING: 2-1 The Glow, 5-1 Bas De Laine, Monsieur Le Cure, 6-1 Fantus, Run Up The Flag, 8-1 others.

1992: DUSTY MILLER 6-11-4 M Richards (5-4 fav) S Sherwood 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

GHIA GNEUIAGH's best effort this season came when beating Gandouge Glen 10l in novice chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good), with THE GLOW (1lb worse off) 4l 3rd, RUN UP THE FLAG fell at the 7th. POPPETS PET 18½l 3rd to Easy Buck in grade II Noel Novices' Chase at Ascot (3m 3f 110yd, good), with MONSIEUR LE CURE (4lb better off) 2l 4th. RUN UP THE FLAG beat Deep Decision 5l in novice chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good). THE GLOW 1½l 3rd to Crystal Spirit in novice chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good). BAS DE LAINE 4l 3rd to Jopanini in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). FANTUS head 2nd to Spirit Of Kibris in novice chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good). POPPETS PET fell at the 1st. MONSIEUR LE CURE's best effort came when 10l 2nd to One Man in novice chase at Haydock (2m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: THE GLOW

3.20 TRIPLEPRINT HANDICAP HURDLE
(£4,403: 3m 110yd) (11 runners)

601 P524-45 PRIME DISPLAY 28 (CD,G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 7-12-0 .... J Osborne 94
602 1/0320 PIPERS COPSE 23 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs P Locke) G Harwood 11-11-13 .... M Perrett 90
603 5/321-16 PEATSWOOD 9 (C,G,S) (P Taplin) M Chernon 5-11-12 .... Lorna Vincent 89
604 P/022/0 CASH IS KING 23 (B,C,F,G,S) (M Myers) N Henderson 9-11-5 .... G Bradley —
605 02110-0 METAL OISEAU 17 (B,D,G,S) (F Ivory) J Moore 5-11-0 .... A Charlton 98
606 312-530 HURRICANE BLAKE 33 (B,F,G) (P Rylands) D Grissell 5-10-11 .... N Williamson 89
607 350-434 CAIRNCASTLE 38 (D,F,G,S) (Miss S Steel) C Barwell 8-10-8 .... A Maguire 91
608 2310-20 PAMBER PRIORY 17 (D,G,S) (D Makins) T Thomson Jones 10-10-7 .... G Rowe 96
609 050-230 EMERALD SUNSET 23 (D,G) (Mrs G Davison) Mrs M Long 8-10-4 .... D Gallagher 95
610 43/3U-14 BEYOND OUR REACH 23 (G) (Hunt & Co Ltd) R Hodges 5-10-1 .... R Dunwoody 87
611 .3045/P MUSCLETON 13 (M Kingsley) D Elsworth 8-10-0 .... A McCabe —

Long handicap: Muscleton 9-6.

BETTING: 7-2 Beyond Our Reach, 5-1 Cairncastle, Peatswood, 6-1 Hurricane Blake, Prime Display, 10-1 others.

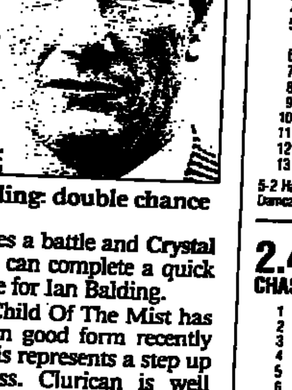
1992: SAYYURE 6-11-2 G McCourt (20-1) T Thomson Jones 7 ran

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

KEMPTON PARK
C4

12.45: A tremendous opener in which at least six will be fancied, including Duke Of Eurolink, formerly trained on the Flat by Luca Cumani, but now with Martin Pipe. The front-running Shujan, Corrouge and Man To Man should ensure a strong gallop and that may help **Tissisat**, who showed a fine turn of foot when coming from off the pace to win on his debut over hurdles. He was not considered fully wound up that day and is quietly fancied by the Ian Balding yard.

1.15: In theory Coulton should gain revenge over Crystal Spirit now that Mick Easterby's chaser is 4lb better off for a $1\frac{1}{2}$-length defeat at Cheltenham. However, I don't think that Coulton



Balding: double chance

relishes a battle and **Crystal Spirit** can complete a quick double for Ian Balding.

1.45: Child Of The Mist has been in good form recently but this represents a step up in class. Clurican is well weighted but I think this rests between Kilcash, who should be race-fit following two runs, and **Amazon Express**, runner up in the Triumph Hurdle, who will appreciate the return to handicap company.

2.20: see above

2.50: The Glow is likely to be sent off favourite here after a Windsor victory and an even better run behind Crystal Spirit at Cheltenham, but **Bas De Laine** may be value on his debut over fences. Oliver Sherwood's runner was a stone better than The Glow over hurdles, and is reported to have schooled well over fences.

RICHARD EVANS

TRAINERS' PREFERENCES

Listed are the first preferences for horses with more than one engagement:

Another Coral 2.30 Wetherby; Auction Law 2.40 Wincanton; Barton Bank 2.20 Kempton; Beyond Our Reach 3.20 Kempton; Biddlestone Boy 3.15 Newton Abbot; Buonarroti 1.40 Wincanton; Charlafrivola 1.35 Hereford; Clonroche Gazette 2.30 Huntingdon; Corly Special 12.55 Market Rasen.

Deep Decision 1.30 Wetherby; Diamond Fort 3.05 Market Rasen; Don't Light Up 2.45 Newton Abbot; Eden Sunset 2.50 Sedgefield; Essen Aitch 2.15 Newton Abbot; Golden Reverie 1.10 Ayr; Gray's Ellergy 2.00 Huntingdon; Gute Nacht 12.50 Sedgefield; Handy Lass 2.15 Newton Abbot; Hello Vanos 12.50 Sedgefield; High Padre 1.50 Sedgefield; It's Confidential 3.15 Newton Abbot; James The First 1.10 Wincanton; Jimster 2.30 Huntingdon.

Kalanski 1.05 Hereford; Kingly Look 2.50 Sedgefield; Leageune 2.30 Huntingdon; Legal Win 1.15 Newton Abbot; Loch Garanne 2.30 Market Rasen; Mahong 1.15 Newton Abbot; Mariolino 1.40 Wincanton, Mecado 2.05 Hereford; Ned The Hall 2.00 Huntingdon; Nevada Gold 2.20 Kempton; Nine Brothers 1.50 Sedgefield; Our Slimbridge 2.30 Market Rasen; Peatswood 3.20 Kempton.

Run Of Weld 12.55 Market Rasen; See More Indians 1.15 Kempton, Spoonhill Wood 12.30 Huntingdon, Supposing 2.00 Market Rasen; The Green Fool 1.10 Ayr; Top Wave 1.45 Kempton, Trusty Friend 2.45 Newton Abbot; Vasiliev 1.00 Wetherby; Woody Will 3.05 Hereford.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wolverhampton: 2.05 Dynamic George. 3.05 Rockeleer. 4.05 Shadow Jury.

SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Harlows Boy, Portite Sailor, Midland Lad, Karenomore, Golden Ancona, Arthurlily.

AYR

THUNDERER
12.40 Princess Maxine. 1.10 Trump. 1.40 Carousel Rocket. 2.10 My Ballyboy. 2.40 Preoblakensky. 3.10 Rhosilli Bay.

GOING: SOFT (8AM INSPECTION)

12.40 AULD LANG SYNE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,411: 2m) (11 runners)

1 U42- CAITHNESS CLOUD 317 C Parker 5-11-4 .... B Storey
2 60-0 CROFTON LAKE 54 J Dixon 5-11-4 .... Mr R Hale (7)
3 P6P/ FLOATER 994 P Monteith 10-11-4 .... A Orkney
4 36-6 KNOW-NO-NO 31 M Hammond 4-11-4 .... D Bentley (5)
5 PRINCE BALTASAR N Bycroft 4-11-4 .... T Reed
6 300- DANCING STREET 348 T Craig 5-10-13 .... C Hawkins
7 00 LA DOUTELLE 16 Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-13 ....
8 000- LADYSIBELOU 233 M Barnes 5-10-13 .... A Dobbin
9 PRINCESS MAXINE 26F Mrs M Reveley 4-10-13 .... R Hodge
10 F-53 THE WHIRLIE WEEVIL 11 G Richards 5-10-13 .... M Moloney
11 0-3P THISTLE PRINCESS 19 G Richards 4-10-13 .... B Harding (7)

9-4 Princess Maxine, 7-2 The Whirlie Weevil, 5-1 Caithness Cloud, 6-1 Thistle Princess, 10-1 Know-No-No, 12-1 Dancing Street, 16-1 others.

1.10 TENNENTS GOLD BIER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,918: 2m 4f) (12)

1 1-03 STARSTREAK 46 (D,F) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 .... G Lee (7)
2 1-13 IT'S THE PITS 11 (D,BF,G,S) L Lungo 6-11-9 .... NON-RUNNER
3 5F51 THE GREEN FOOL 7 (D,F,G,S) V Thompson 6-11-9 (6ex) .... NON-RUNNER
4 2020 SWEET CITY 11 (CD,S) G Richards 8-11-6 .... Mr R Hale (7)
5 31/P1 NODDLE 10 (D,G,S) L Lungo 5-11-6 .... T Reed
6 0441 DIG DEEPER 11 (S) J J O'Neill 6-11-6 .... J Callaghan
7 3-10 TRUMP 19 (CD,G) C Parker 4-11-2 .... B Storey
8 F-125 MASTER OF TROY 46 (B,S) C Parker 5-11-1 .... Mr A Parker (7)
9 580- ELGIN 310 (C,S) P Monteith 4-10-2 .... A Orkney
10 0550 HAMANAKA 7 (S) J Love 4-10-1 .... Mr S Love
11 0620 RED TEMPEST 7 J Goldie 5-10-0 .... F Perratt (5)
12 BF-0 GOLDEN REVERIE 21 (CD,G) B Mactaggart 5-10-0 .... M Moloney

11-4 Noddle, 7-2 Starstreak, 5-1 Trump, 6-1 Dig Deeper, 7-1 Sweet City, 8-1 Master Of Troy, 14-1 others.

1.40 TENNENTS LAGER HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,163: 4m 1f) (10)

1 12-F TARTAN TYRANT 11 (C,G,S) G Richards 7-11-10 .... M Moloney
2 3F53 OVER THE DEEL 11 (C,F,G,S) J Johnson 7-11-7 .... A Orkney
3 P-84 CAROUSEL ROCKET 18 (C,F,G,S) M Hammond 10-11-2 .... D Bentley (5)
4 3151 INVERINATE 16 (B,F,G,S) L Lungo 8-10-7 .... T Reed
5 4-55 FORTH AND TAY 38 (G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 11-10-7 .... P Williams (5)
6 6645 CLONROCHE DRILLER 18 (G,S) Mrs S Bramall 8-10-5 .... Mr D Parker (7)
7 3U2P SCOTTISH GOLD 18 (BF,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 9-10-4 .... N Mann
8 F-0P BUCKLE IT UP 38 (S) A Mactaggart 8-10-4 .... Mr D Mactaggart
9 0252 TRUELY ROYAL 10 (G) J Charlton 9-10-3 .... B Storey
10 /FF-0 RAWYARDS BRIG 21 (S) Mrs D Thomson 10-10-0 .... A Dobbin

11-4 Tartan Tyrant, 4-1 Inverinate, 5-1 Truely Royal, 6-1 Over The Deel, 7-1 Scottish Gold, Carousel Rocket, 12-1 Clonroche Driller, 14-1 others

2.10 AYR JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE
(3-Y-O: £2,583: 2m) (7)

1 111F MY BALLYBOY 17 (D,G,S) A Bailey 12-0 .... N Mann
2 P15 ERBIL 7 (D,F) L Lungo 11-3 .... F Perratt (5)
3 2U3 DEVILRY 44 G Moore 11-1 .... J Callaghan
4 1205 ASTRAC TRIO 21 (CD,G) P Monteith 11-1 .... A Dobbin
5 4033 COEUR BATTANT 27 (BF) N Tinkler 10-11 .... E Husband (5)
6 2064 MISTROY 9 M Hammond 10-9 .... D Bentley (5)
7 044 NEGD 27 (B) S Kettlewell 10-3 .... B Storey

7-4 My Ballyboy, 4-1 Devilry, 5-1 Coeur Battant, 6-1 Erbil, 10-1 others.

2.40 GALLOWAY PONY CLUB NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,801: 2m 4f) (12)

1 00 THE LORRYMAN 16 W Reed 5-12-0 .... F Perratt (5)
2 0320 ABLE PLAYER 23 (B,F,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-10 .... J Burke (5)
3 00P1 QUIET MONEY 5 (S) M Hammond 6-11-9 (7ex) .... D Bentley (5)
4 53P- PREOBLAKENSKY 210 (G,S) G Richards 6-11-8 .... M Moloney
5 P0-3 CAITHNESS PRINCE 44 (B) C Parker 7-11-6 .... B Storey
6 /3F-V LOTHIAN PILOT 11 (G) L Lungo 6-11-0 .... T Reed
7 3/P ROUGHSIDE 27 A Mactaggart 8-11-0 .... Mr D Mactaggart
8 4235 FLING IN SPRING 21 Mrs S Bradburne 7-10-8 .... P Williams (5)
9 21/46 MR OPTIMISTIC 19 (G,S) J J O'Neill 6-10-7 .... R Hodge
10 6001 EBRO 7 (D,G) V Thompson 7-10-7 (7ex) .... NON-RUNNER
11 32/0- MAC RAMBLER 381 N Bycroft 6-10-5 .... A Orkney
12 4-22 LADY'S ISLAND 24 J Charlton 5-10-0 .... J Callaghan

7-2 Caithness Prince, 4-1 Mr Optimistic, 5-1 Able Player, Quiet Money, 7-1 others.

3.10 OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,716: 2m) (16)

1 4- ADDINGTON BOY 303 G Richards 5-11-0 .... B Harding (7)
2 AFRICAN GOLD L Lungo 5-11-0 .... F Perratt (5)
3 BISHOPS CASTLE T Carr 5-11-0 .... M Clarke (7)
4 0 D'ARBLAY STREET 16 W Kemp 4-11-0 .... S McDougall (7)
5 0 DERWENT LAD 44 M Barnes 4-11-0 .... A Dobbin
6 HAGGLE Miss L Perratt 4-11-0 .... T Reed
7 R4 KING CREOLE 9 J Berry 4-11-0 .... S Haworth (7)
8 LOMOND SPRINGS J Barclay 4-11-0 .... D J Moffatt (3)
9 4 NAUGHTY FUTURE 44 J J O'Neill 4-11-0 .... M Moloney
10 PRESS TO STING A Mactaggart 4-11-0 .... Mr D Mactaggart
11 00- RALLEGIO 331 P Monteith 4-11-0 .... A Orkney
12 2-2 RHOSSILI BAY 80 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-0 .... R Hodge
13 RIGHT TERM J Johnson 4-11-0 .... M Molloy (7)
14 SPY DESSA T Carr 5-11-0 .... N Mann
15 0- SHATRAVIV 259 J Charlton 5-10-9 .... B Storey
16 SKI PATH N Bycroft 4-10-9 .... J Callaghan

7-4 Rhossili Bay, 7-2 King Creole, 5-1 Addington Boy, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 28 winners from 77 runners, 36.4%; G Richards, 51 from 230, 22.2%; Mrs S Bradburne, 16 from 94, 17%; G Moore, 15 from 92, 16.3%; M Hammond, 8 from 53, 15.1%.

JOCKEYS: A Dobbin, 7 winners from 39 rides, 17.9%; F Perratt, 4 from 24, 16.7%; Mr J Bradburne, 8 from 51, 15.7%; B Storey, 18 from 152, 11.8%; P Williams, 5 from 43, 11.6%.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER
12.45 Tekla. 1.15 Legal Win. 1.45 Northern Saddler. 2.15 Daves Delight. 2.45 Don't Light Up. 3.15 Connaught Crusader.

GOING: HEAVY

12.45 MID DEVON NOVICES CHASE
(£2,501: 2m 5f) (9 runners)

1 1213 KALANSKI 20 (BF,G,S) C Egerton 7-11-8 .... 2nd pref
2 -031 BARELY BLACK 19 (S) N Babbage 5-11-4 .... Guy Lewis (7)
3 3120 BOLL WEEVIL 25 (D,G,S) O Sherwood 7-11-4 .... Mr J Durkan
4 2F03 ASK THE GOVERNOR 28 (F,G,S) G Balding 7-11-0
5 006P PARSON'S WAY 19 (B) A Jones 6-11-0 .... Craig Thornton
6 -06P PRINCE VALMY 12 N Ayliffe 8-11-0 .... B Upton
7 4052 TEKLA 19 (S) A Chamberlain 8-11-0 .... M Foster
8 4061 PRUDENT PEGGY 14 (CD,S) R Frost 6-10-13 .... R Darke (7)
9 14-P KIWI VELOCITY 30 (G,S) P Hobbs 6-10-9 .... L Harvey

5-2 Kiwi Velocity, 4-1 Ask The Governor, Prudent Peggy, 5-1 Boll Weevil, 11-2 Tekla, 6-1 Barely Black, 25-1 Prince Valmy, 66-1 Parson's Way.

1.15 CHRISTMAS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,847: 2m 1f) (11)

1 2144 MECADO 6 (V,D,G,S) F Yardley 6-12-0 .... 2nd pref
2 3401 SANDRO 12 (B,D,F,G,S) R Baker 4-11-4 .... L Harvey
3 0450 BOOGIE BOPPER 12 (V,D,S) M Pipe 4-11-0 .... L Reynolds (7)
4 -33R LEGAL WIN 5 (F) D Barons 5-10-8 .... Mr G Shenkin (7)
5 6-40 COBB GATE 20 (B,CD,G) B Stevens 5-10-6 .... M Stevens
6 0/3- CHARLAFRIVOLA 511 T Greathead 5-10-4 .... 2nd pref
7 P0/3 MAHONG 10 (B) Mrs H Parrott 5-10-0 .... V Slattery
8 0F1S MILDRED SOPHIA 12 (CD,S) N Mitchell 6-10-0
9 -00P SPIRIT LEVEL 12 J Payne 5-10-0 .... Miss S Mitchell (7)
10 00/P VERRO 18 B Forsey 6-10-0 .... Mr R Payne (7)
11 0P-0 PIRATE OF PENZANCE 12 S Horn 5-10-0 .... Mrs C Wonnacott

2-1 Mahong, 3-1 Sandro, 9-2 Mildred Sophia, 6-1 Cobb Gate, 8-1 Legal Win, 10-1 Boogie Bopper, 16-1 others.

1.45 THURLESTONE HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,588: 2m 1f) (7)

1 1353 MOHANA 59 (CD,F,G,S) M Pipe 4-12-0 .... Mr N Moore (7)
2 5124 ATHAR 16 (CD,F,G,S) R Baker 4-11-2 .... L Harvey
3 0141 NORTHERN SADDLER 14 (CD,F,G,S) R Hodges 6-10-10
4 5-42 DJEBEL PRINCE 6 (CD,G,S) C Egerton 6-10-5 .... W Irvine
5 -F05 MARIOLINO 12 (F,G,S) K Bishop 6-10-0 .... J Railton
6 4503 PUNCHBAG 14 (CD,G,S) G Ham 7-10-0 .... 2nd pref
7 0-62 NOVA SPIRIT 14 (C,F,S) M Saunders 5-10-0 .... G Upton / Guy Lewis (7)

2-1 Djebel Prince, 3-1 Northern Saddler, 7-2 Athar, 9-2 Mohana, 10-1 Punchbag, 12-1 Nova Spirit.

2.15 ROYAL CASTLE HOTEL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,220: 2m 6f) (13)

1 1121 HANDY LASS 12 (F,G,S) Mrs A Knight 4-12-0 .... D Matthews (5)
2 -432 PRINCE OF SALERNO 13 N Gaselee 6-11-3 .... L Harvey
3 2-54 LANSDOWNE 8 G Ham 5-10-13 .... S Mackey
4 -001 DAMCADA 20 (S) D Wintle 5-10-8 .... P McDermott
5 -U06 DAVES DELIGHT 14 Miss S Waterman 7-10-8 .... Mr G Shenkin (7)
6 5-60 TEMPORARY 27 R Frost 8-10-6 .... R Darke (7)
7 -P44 THE CARROT MAN 19 C Egerton 5-10-3 .... B Upton
8 5533 UP ALL NIGHT 12 R Curtis 4-10-2 .... G Crone (7)
9 P-5P RIVER STREAM 18 L Cottrell 6-10-2 .... Mr N Harris
10 5P0- SHERWOOD FOX 221 S Horn 6-10-0 .... Mrs C Wonnacott
11 UP-P BLAKEINGTON 23 (B) N Mitchell 7-10-0 .... Miss S Mitchell (7)
12 -PPP BROWN MYSTIQUE 26 C Broad 7-10-0 .... Jacqui Oliver
13 00-P ESSEN AITCH 14 Mrs H Parrott 4-10-0 .... V Slattery

5-2 Handy Lass, 7-2 Prince Of Salerno, 5-1 The Carrot Man, 6-1 Lansdowne, 7-1 Damcada, 8-1 Up All Night, 10-1 Daves Delight, 16-1 others.

2.45 LANGSTONE CLIFF HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,453: 3m 2f 110yd) (7)

1 3241 CATCH THE CROSS 13 (B,C,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-11 .... M Foster
2 104F SUNBEAM TALBOT 23 (D,G,S) A Jones 12-10-8 .... G Upton
3 5-23 JAILBREAKER 24 (CD,G,S) B Millman 6-10-1 .... D Salter (5)
4 F231 DON'T LIGHT UP 14 (V,CD,S) P Nicholls 7-10-0 .... Guy Lewis (7)
5 2513 JIMSTER 31 (D,BF,F,S) C Nash 11-10-0 .... 2nd pref
6 44P6 TRUSTY FRIEND 9 (CD,G,S) C Popham 11-10-0 .... S Burrough
7 5526 CHANCERY BUCK 10 (CD,F,G) R Frost 10-10-0 .... R Darke (7)

7-4 Don't Light Up, 5-2 Catch The Cross, 3-1 Jailbreaker, 7-1 Sunbeam Talbot, 14-1 Trusty Friend, 25-1 Chancery Buck.

3.15 E.B.F. NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £2,250: 2m 1f) (12)

1 0 BECKFORD 19 N Gaselee 4-11-0 .... L Harvey
2 00/6 BIDDLESTONE BOY 12 D Barons 6-11-0 .... Mr G Shenkin (7)
3 0 BROWN ROBBER 14 Mrs R Henderson 5-11-0 .... Mr W Henderson
4 1-0 CONNAUGHT CRUSADER 98 (S) P Hobbs 5-11-0 .... M Hourigan
5 0-50 GAVASKAR 47 G Balding 4-11-0 .... E Leonard
6 6-4 HOLD YOUR RANKS 23 R Frost 6-11-0 .... R Darke (7)
7 0/P IT'S CONFIDENTIAL 19 D Barons 6-11-0 .... Mrs C Wonnacott
8 550- KING'S MAVERICK 289 M Pipe 5-11-0 .... M Foster
9 0-6P LIBERTY JAMES 45 Mrs E Brooks 6-11-0 .... Mr R Payne (7)
10 R MANDY LOUISE 14 A Jarvis 5-10-9 .... G McGrath (7)
11 06 SOLO GIRL 14 A Jones 5-10-9 .... G Upton
12 -00P STORMY SUNSET 23 W Dennis 6-10-9 .... Mr N Moore (7)

2-1 Connaught Crusader, 3-1 Hold Your Ranks, 5-1 King's Maverick, 6-1 Gavaskar, 8-1 Biddlestone Boy, 12-1 Brown Robber, Solo Girl, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Egerton, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; M Pipe, 102 from 334, 30.5%; P Hobbs, 24 from 104, 23.1%; P Nicholls, 9 from 41, 22.0%; R Curtis, 3 from 14, 21.4%; B Millman, 3 from 15, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: A Tory, 8 winners from 56 rides, 14.3%; M Foster, 6 from 43, 14.0%; L Harvey, 7 from 56, 12.5%; Mrs C Wonnacott, 3 from 25, 12.0%; M Hourigan, 3 from 30, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

HEREFORD

THUNDERER
1.05 Kalanski. 1.35 Project's Mate. 2.05 Baybeejay. 2.35 Lesbet. 3.05 Man Of Mystery. 3.35 Tothewoods.

GOING: SOFT

1.05 PLUM PUDDING NOVICES CHASE
(£2,437: 2m) (7 runners)

1 1213 KALANSKI 20 (D,BF,G,S) C Egerton 7-12-0 .... J Railton
2 031/ BINKLEY 1363 N Twiston-Davies 7-11-2 .... W Humphreys
3 P/5F PYRO PENNANT 24 D Burchell 8-11-2 .... P McLoughlin (7)
4 5/PU RUN OF WELD 25 (D,G) F Yardley 10-11-2 .... 2nd pref
5 P/0F THE WOODEN HUT 9 (V) Mrs A Price 10-11-2 .... Mr M Jackson
6 3522 JAMES THE FIRST 25 (C,D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 5-11-0 .... 2nd pref
7 15-0 PERCY SMOLLETT 28 (C,F) J McConnochie 5-11-0 .... A Tory

4-7 Kalanski, 5-2 Binkley, 11-2 Percy Smollett, 12-1 Pyro Pennant, 33-1 The Wooden Hut.

1.35 GOOSE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,480: 2m 1f) (9)

1 1121 HANDY LASS 12 (C,F,G,S) Mrs A Knight 4-11-10 .... 2nd pref
2 0-11 PROJECT'S MATE 14 (CD,S) R Brown 6-10-13 .... P McLoughlin (7)
3 005 FIRST CENTURY 19 B Llewellyn 4-10-6 .... Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
4 2P0P MINT-MASTER 82 (F) B Shaw 8-10-0 .... K Brown (7)
5 0/3- CHARLAFRIVOLA 511 T Greathead 5-10-0 .... W Humphreys
6 6F-0 MUCH 31 Mrs A Price 6-10-0 .... Mr M Jackson
7 P0/3 MAHONG 10 (B) Mrs H Parrott 5-10-0 .... 2nd pref
8 P/0- MORIARTY 492 R Price 6-10-0 .... T Jenks (5)
9 5306 PRINCETHORPE 10 B Cambidge 6-10-0 .... D Meredith (3)

7-4 Handy Lass, 15-8 Project's Mate, 6-1 First Century, 8-1 Charlafrivola, 12-1 Mint-Master, Moriarty, 14-1 Princethorpe, 16-1 Much.

2.05 MINCE PIE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,606: 2m 3f 110yd) (15)

1 2144 MECADO 6 (V,G,S) F Yardley 6-12-0 .... P McLoughlin (7)
2 -R03 BALLERINA ROSE 5 (G) D Burchell 6-11-8 .... V Slattery
3 42-0 HARPLEY 21 (G,S) R Juckes 6-11-0 .... N Juckes (7)
4 23-3 QUALITAIR MEMORY 20 (BF,S) J Akehurst 4-10-10 .... J McCarthy (5)
5 4033 BAYBEEJAY 14 (B,BF,G) R Brotherton 6-10-8 .... T Jenks (5)
6 -33W LEGAL WIN 5 (D,F) D Barons 5-10-8 .... 2nd pref
7 -005 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 24 (CD,F) B Llewellyn 5-10-8 .... Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
8 02-3 CORLY SPECIAL 12 (F) K Burke 6-10-6 .... 2nd pref
9 P34F PEACOCK FEATHER 14 (BF,S) K Burke 5-10-5 .... —
10 6603 NORDIC BEAT 11 (B) W Clay 4-10-4 .... Diane Clay
11 50-6 GIVE ME HOPE 6 R Price 5-10-2 .... J Railton
12 P-0U BEAUFAN 14 (B) B Cambidge 6-10-1 .... D Meredith (3)
13 /P-2 JOKERS PATCH 14 (S) R Baker 6-10-0 .... R Greene
14 -50P THANKSFORTHEOFFER 5 I Jones 5-10-0 .... P McDermott
15 0P-P CATHS FOLLY 21 J Peacock 8-10-0 .... —

7-2 Qualitair Memory, 9-2 Jokers Patch, 11-2 Ballerina Rose, 6-1 Baybeejay, Peacock Feather, 7-1 Mecado, 8-1 Northern Optimist, 10-1 others.

2.35 CHELTENHAM AND THREE COUNTIES CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,358: 3m 2f) (8)

1 61-6 BUONARROTI 16 (G,S) J Old 6-12-0 .... 2nd pref
2 4-05 CAPTAIN DOLFORD 9 (S) D Sandolfo 6-10-12 .... J Railton
3 0-01 HAPPY HORSE 13 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-10-5 .... A Tory
4 -3P1 LESBET 24 (F,G,S) R Curtis 8-10-3 .... D Morris
5 P0-4 DECIDED 14 (F,G,S) R Lee 10-10-2 .... P McLoughlin
6 231- RIMOUSKI 145F (B) B Cambidge 5-10-2 .... Mr J Cambidge
7 UR-4 WICKET 8 (G,S) M Wilkinson 8-10-0 .... P Ward (7)
8 6341 VERY LITTLE 9 (S) R Alner 5-10-0 .... Mr P Henley (7)

11-4 Happy Horse, 7-2 Lesbet, 4-1 Very Little, Wicket, 9-2 Captain Dolford, 7-1 Decided, 12-1 Rimouski.

3.05 GREEN DRAGON HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,931: 3m 1f 110yd) (10)

1 2P-5 AUCTION LAW 65 (CD,F,G,S) D Barons 9-11-10 .... 2nd pref
2 -111 MAN OF MYSTERY 6 (CD,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-4 (7ex) .... W Humphreys
3 24-5 DIAMOND FORT 41 (D,S) J McConnochie 8-10-7 .... 2nd pref
4 -642 NEW HALEN 5 (CD,F,G,S) A James 12-10-6 .... D Meredith (3)
5 F231 DON'T LIGHT UP 14 (V,S) P Nicholls 7-10-4 .... 2nd pref
6 F24- WOODY WILL 227 (F) O Sherwood 7-10-3 .... J McCarthy (5)
7 BP-0 LEAGAUNE 23 (D,S) T Casey 11-10-0 .... 2nd pref
8 4F84 SAM SHORROCK 13 (B,CD,G,S) G Thorner 11-10-0 .... Mr G Johnson Houghton
9 44P6 TRUSTY FRIEND 9 (CD,G,S) C Popham 11-10-0 .... 2nd pref
10 235/ CLONROCHE GAZETTE 663 (S) Miss D Baker 13-10-0 2nd pref

4-6 Man Of Mystery, 7-2 Woody Will, 5-1 New Halen, 8-1 Sam Shorrock.

3.35 DUCKLING NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,480: 2m 3f 110yd) (10)

1 -001 TOTHEWOODS 23 (S) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-7 .... W Humphreys
2 6001 ROCKY BAY 19 (S) B Llewellyn 4-11-2 .... Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
3 P0-0 ATHASSEL ABBEY 90 R Lee 7-11-0 .... P McLoughlin (7)
4 00/6 BIDDLESTONE BOY 12 D Barons 6-11-0 .... 2nd pref
5 P-P CARLSAN 31 Mrs A Price 7-11-0 .... Mr M Jackson
6 00P- GRANNY'S LAD 284 Mrs S Johnson 6-11-0 .... D Meredith (3)
7 0/P IT'S CONFIDENTIAL 19 D Barons 6-11-0 .... 2nd pref
8 04-0 MARANO 17 Mrs N Sharpe 5-11-0 .... R Greene
9 0/34 TALBOT 23 C Egerton 7-11-0 .... J Railton
10 00-P ESSEN AITCH 14 Mrs H Parrott 4-10-9 .... 2nd pref

Evens Talbot, 5-4 Tothewoods, 8-1 Rocky Bay, 14-1 Athassel Abbey, 20-1 Marano, 25-1 Granny's Lad, 66-1 Carlsan.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Alner, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; O Sherwood, 7 from 18, 38.9%; N Twiston-Davies, 11 from 35, 31.4%; D Burchell, 12 from 46, 26.1%; P Nicholls, 3 from 15, 20.0%; Mrs H Parrott, 3 from 16, 18.8%.

JOCKEYS: Diane Clay, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; J McCarthy, 3 from 9, 33.3%. Only qualifiers.

Craftsman leaves memories and Motherwell behind him



Cooper: gifted

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish Commentary

Trust a winger to slip clear on the blindside. Davie Cooper went past the entire country on Saturday. While everyone's eyes were fixed on Christmas, he left top-flight football behind him, moving from Motherwell to rejoin his first professional club, Clydebank.

Cooper has spent the last 16 years in the premier division. It is usually only the grizzled thugs who last so long, yet, when you have as much talent as Cooper, it takes time to dispense it all. He is the most gifted footballer Scotland has produced since Kenny Dalglish.

The bulk of the evidence for that contention was supplied during his 12 years at Ibrox. He produced his greatest performances with Rangers. Now, there are few wingers to be seen and none at all with Cooper's classical skill.

That left foot could — still can — manipulate the ball as deftly as a huckster working the three-shell trick in a bunko booth, yet, for all the intricacy, his was an easy, fluid style. Where lesser performers squirm and bore their way past markers, Cooper just drifted.

To this day, Rangers supporters celebrate the recollection of Cooper twice lobbing the ball over Celtic defenders' heads as he ran through to score in the pre-season Drybrough Cup final of 1979. His interventions on loftier occasions also ensured a haul of medals. A free-kick goal against Aberdeen in the 1987 Skol Cup final was delivered with such force and accuracy as to seem almost excessive.

The 37-year-old is termed a winger only out of force of habit. Cooper could thrive in any position that depends on craft. Since joining Motherwell in 1989, he has taken on the playmaker's role, ushering and coaxing the rest of the team with passes. The veteran helped the club to collect the Scottish Cup in 1991.

His has been a luminous life in the game yet, in a broader perspective, he will remain obscure. It is not that his artistry satisfies only local tastes. During the Champions League last season, Ruud Gullit was asked about Scottish football. This, you feared, was demanding too much of the great Dutch forward's memory banks. Not at all. The Milan player launched into an encomium of Cooper.

Despite that, the raw facts will conceal Cooper's eminence. Scotland have reached the World Cup finals on four occasions since Rangers bought him, but Cooper has made only two appearances in the foremost of tournaments, both as substitute.

The dossier on wasted talent overflows with so many documents that you can scarcely get the drawer shut in Scottish football's filing cabinet. Cooper's tale, however, does not deserve to be lodged there. He might recoil from the fitness fanaticism of peers such as Gordon Strachan, but his effectivenss at 37 demonstrates that his body has received sufficient care and maintenance.

The course Cooper has followed has been determined by the strength of his instincts. As a teenager in 1974, he had to be cajoled into senior football. Cooper was deterred by the journey from his Lanarkshire home to Clydebank and the club were obliged to find him an old banger before he would sign.

Nor was he inclined to travel on from Kilbowie. Rangers were able to secure his services only because he had supported them since boyhood. The notion of a move to England has obsessed many Scots, but it barely appears to have flickered across Cooper's mind. All the same, it should not be assumed that the winger is hampered by diffidence or shyness.

Arguing with referees and provoking crowds are specialities. Celtic supporters have always berated him and he, in turn, is adroit at riling them. In a deeper sense, though, Cooper is self-contained. Other people's expectations cannot touch him. Dalglish was a greater figure only because his flair was topped off with a diligence born of ambition.

Such impulses are foreign to Cooper. There is a low-key imperturbability about him, which is apparent even in his haircut. Cooper stuck with his Eddie Cochran, proto-rocker style even when other stars were lapsing into shaggy perms. Success with Rangers was, in the same way, quite sufficient for him. Injury forced Cooper to drop out of the 1990 World Cup just days before it began, but he did not bother to pretend that he was utterly desolate.

The might-have-beens are hardly worth a thought. Cooper has conducted his career entirely on his own terms. In a sport as compromised as football, that constitutes a triumph. He played well, he played for Rangers and he is playing still. Mission accomplished.

SIMON WILKINSON

Liverpool's defensive weakness unpunished

Sheffield United 0
Liverpool 0

BY OLIVER HOLT

LIVERPOOL came gift-wrapped to Bramall Lane yesterday in a new kit of gold and black, and with a defence so porous and pedestrian it seemed ideal to give Sheffield United the Christmas fillip that prompts a climb away from their habitual mid-winter position in the lower reaches of the table.

The home team, which has now scored only one goal in eight games and has won once in the past 18 matches, tore at the flimsy resistance Liverpool offered but failed to prise the defence fully open. Spent after a profligate first half, Sheffield United hung on during a second period that passed in a blur of mediocrity and ended in their fifth goalless draw of the season.

It was hard to believe that this was the same Liverpool team that played its part to the

TEAMS

SHEFFIELD UNITED (4-4-2): A Kelly — C Bradshaw, J Hoyland, P Beesley, K Gage — D Whitehouse, C Kamara (sub: W Falconer, 79min), G Hodges, M Ward (sub: A Scott, 88) — J Flo, B Davison.

LIVERPOOL (4-4-3): B Grobbelaar — R Jones, M Wright, N Ruddock, J Dicks — S Nicol, N Clough, S McManaman, J Redknapp — I Rush (sub: M Walters, 69), R Fowler.

Referee: A Wilkie.

full in the 3-3 draw with Tottenham at White Hart Lane last weekend. Only Fowler, Redknapp and Grobbelaar retained the impressive, cultured style that had graced North London.

The restoration of Ruddock and Dicks to the visitors' defence made it alarmingly susceptible to the neat incisions of Hodges and Whitehouse and even the lumbering charges of Flo. Both defenders looked short of fitness and devoid of pace and left Redknapp and Nicol to do much of the chasing back for them.

The Yorkshire side should have gone ahead in the third minute on a pitch made treacherous by areas that had not been thawed by the bright sunshine. Whitehouse ran through as the Liverpool defence pushed out and struck a dipping volley over Grobbelaar but wide of his goal. The same player crossed a minute later but his pass eluded a posse of advancing forwards and five minutes after that, Grobbelaar flung himself through the air to block a 25-yard volley from Hodges and clutched it to his chest at the second attempt.

As Liverpool tottered, exposed down the left flank in particular, Ward unwittingly managed to thread a cross between Davison and Flo as they lurked on the edge of the six-yard box when it seemed easier to find either. The best chance came soon afterwards, when Flo advanced on Grobbelaar but squared the ball to Davison, who was in an offside position, when he should have shot himself.

Davison reached the fourth row of the stand, engulfed in celebrating supporters, before he realised his goal had been disallowed. Two minutes later, he confined himself to a theatrical fall to the floor when Hodges, unmarked eight yards out, glanced Flo's cross well wide of Grobbelaar's gaping goal.

"I gave up counting the chances we missed after 20 minutes," Dave Bassett, the Sheffield United manager, said. "But when you are down at the bottom you do not get the breaks and when you are at the top, you do. We created enough chances to win three games today and we even passed the ball about a bit, which is unusual for us. But there was enough for us to build on."

Liverpool continued to show their vulnerability even after they had weathered the early storm and it took a fine save from Grobbelaar to deny Flo from point-blank range after the Norwegian international striker had run on to Hodges's cunning free kick.

But Redknapp and Clough gradually imposed themselves on the midfield in the second half. Rush and Fowler began to look livelier and McManaman made some weaving, if largely inconsequential, runs on the right amid the clumps of frozen soil that played a part in stunting the development of the match.

Rush's petulant reaction to his substitution seven minutes from the final whistle even added a talking point to the otherwise barren proceedings. "I am not going to make any judgment on my players after that," Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager said. "The conditions were difficult, the ground was half-frozen, half-thawed. It was what Bob Paisley would have called a 'two-faced pitch'."



McManaman, right, the Liverpool winger, tries to escape the attentions of two Sheffield United defenders during the goalless draw at Bramall Lane yesterday

Stoke give Fry due notice to curb attacking style

Stoke City..... 2
Birmingham City 1

BY DENNIS SHAW

BARRY Fry was given a comprehensive demonstration of the size of the task he has undertaken as the new manager of Birmingham City as Stoke moved into fifth place in the first division with their seventh successive home victory.

When Fry, the former manager of Southend and Barnet, moved to St Andrews, he was warned of the dog-eat-dog nature of the many Midland derbies in this division. Given first-hand experience before live television cameras, he could only agree that the way ahead, in attempting to guide Birmingham away from relegation danger, is a hazardous one.

Backed by around 5,000 supporters, Birmingham poured their heart and soul into Fry's cause just as they had in his opening home game, when they beat Charlton. But there was extra composure and shape about Joe Jordan's team.

Also, they had the extra guile from the contribution of Todi Orlygsson, who was rightly selected as man of the match. The Icelandic international, signed on a free transfer from Nottingham Forest in the summer, scored Stoke's first goal in the thirteenth minute.

Orlygsson also revealed precious qualities of close control on a frosty pitch, plus mobility. These qualities were entertainingly evident when he collected Gleghorn's pass near the half-way line.

White and Cooper were closing in on him, but he glided between them, accelerated, chose his moment to perfection to place his shot wide of the advancing Miller. Stoke's tactical formation was more reminiscent of a visiting team, with five defenders and three in midfield, relying on such breakaways to catch their opponents unguarded.

Fry, however, is nothing if not positive in his management style. At half-time, he made two substitutions, and pushed players forward. The strategic changes had the desired effect of unsettling Stoke, and their equaliser arrived in just under the hour.

Lowe, who provided ample midfield inspiration, was the provider. He was signed from Stoke recently and scored the winning goal against Charlton last week. His pass was beautifully weighted for Peschisolido, the Canadian international, who shrugged off a weak challenge and advanced to beat Marshall.

Stoke pressed forward and were rewarded with a corner, taken by Gleghorn in the 68th minute, which dropped into the centre of the goalmouth. The ball fell invitingly for Sandford, the Stoke defender, who prodded in his first goal of the season.

"It's going to be harder than I thought to turn things around," Fry said. "The way we gave their second goal away was schoolboy stuff. But it's no use blaming the goalkeeper. I picked him."

STOKE CITY (5-3-2): G Marshall, I Clarkson, L Sandford, I Cranson, V Overson, T Cowan; T Orlygsson, S Foley, N Gleghorn; G Bannister, D Regis.
BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-4-2): K Miller; P Fenwick (sub: D Barnett, 45min), C White, D Dryden, G Cooper; E McMinn, K Lowe, P Harding, D Wallace (sub: C Shutt, 45); P Peschisolido, A Saville.
Referee: K Cooper



Fry: disappointed

Consortium awaits Everton decision

THE struggle to win control of Everton, whose troubles in the FA Carling Premiership this season have exceeded even their Merseyside neighbours, Liverpool, may be resolved tomorrow. Two consortiums, one led by Bill Kenwright, the theatre impresario and director of the club, and the other by Peter Johnson, the chairman of Tranmere Rovers, are expected to know which is to take the helm at Goodison Park before the home match against Sheffield Wednesday tonight.

However, yesterday Kenwright's group betrayed signs of the pressure surrounding the decision by repeating denials that it was Manchester-based and therefore unsuitable to run a Merseyside club.

"We absolutely refute these allegations," Tony Tighe, a member of the consortium, said. "It is a load of rubbish. We are all staunch Evertonians — all season ticket-holders of long standing. I personally go to every home game and the majority of away matches. It is just fighting dirty and we are not in that game. We don't want Everton's good name being dragged down by this."

The group, which boasts the backing of the Moores family that presently owns the club, comprises Kenwright, Tighe, a public relations businessman, Professor Tom Cannon, a former head of Manchester Business School, Arthur Abercrombie, the building entrepreneur, and Mike Dyble, the advertising specialist.

Baggio claims European award

ROBERTO Baggio, the Juventus forward, was confirmed as the European Footballer of the Year yesterday after a year in which he has emerged as possibly the first outstanding player of the Nineties. Named World Player of the Year by *Fifa*, the sport's governing body, last week at the World Cup draw in Las Vegas, he predictably added the European title in overwhelming fashion in the annual poll of European coaches conducted by *France Football* magazine.

Baggio, 26, the first Italian to win the award in 11 years, received 142 points, far ahead of the second-placed Dennis Bergkamp, of Internazionale and Holland, who was given 83 points. Eric Cantona, Manchester United's talented but temperamental French forward, carried the flag for the FA Carling Premiership, finishing third with 34 points, ahead of Alen Boksic of Lazio and Croatia, who had 29.

The last Italian to win the award was Paolo Rossi in 1982 when he led the Italian national side to victory in the World Cup in Spain. Another Juventus player, Michel Platini, of France, won the award in three consecutive years from 1983 to 1985. Baggio succeeds Marco van Basten, another Dutchman.

VOTING

1, R Baggio (Juventus and Italy), 142 votes; 2, D Bergkamp (Internazionale and Holland), 83; 3, E Cantona (Manchester Utd and France), 34; 4, A Boksic (Lazio, formerly Marseilles, and Croatia), 29; 5, M Laudrup (Barcelona and Denmark), 27; 6, F Baresi (AC Milan and Italy), 24; 7, P Maldini (AC Milan and Italy), 19; 8, E Kostadinov (FC Porto and Bulgaria), 11; equal 9, R Giggs (Manchester Utd and Wales) and S Chapuisat (Borussia Dortmund and Switzerland), 9

Chelsea hope to end poor spell

BY KEITH PIKE

WITH their three closest pursuers not playing today, Manchester United's 13-point lead in the FA Carling Premiership will remain intact until Wednesday at least. Attention turns instead to the foot of the table, where the match between Southampton and Chelsea at The Dell appears to be a relegation dogfight only halfway though the season. Indeed, should Chelsea lose and Swindon Town defeat Arsenal at the County Ground, Glenn Hoddle's team will find itself pinned to the bottom of the table by 1.45 this afternoon — hardly the position he or Ken Bates can have envisaged when Hoddle arrived at Stamford Bridge in the summer.

Since beating Manchester United and Liverpool in successive matches at Stamford Bridge in September, Chelsea have endured an agonising run in which they have taken just two points out of 30 and scored three goals in 900 minutes.

Mark Stein, with no goals in seven games since his £1.5 million move from Stoke City, has staked an early claim for transfer turkey of the season, and Hoddle has been forced on to the sidelines by a combination of flu and injury. His chances of returning to lead by example are not rated highly.

Still, where there is David Beasant there is hope for Hoddle. Discarded by the London club after a series of much-publicised howlers, the former England goalkeeper is embarking on a revival with Southampton after 12 miserable months. Whether he is enjoying it is another matter. The four matches since he replaced Ian Andrews have brought four defeats, and another one today will increase calls from the Southampton terraces for Ian Branfoot's head.

Branfoot, though, is backing 33-year-old Beasant. "Dave has been outstanding in the last few weeks," he said. "It has not been his fault that we have lost the last few games. He has been excellent for us. It is not just his saves but his presence and strong character. We certainly need a few of those around at the moment.

"He was blamed for one or two bad performances but people forget that he has played 500 games in a long and successful career."

Two victories and three draws in their last seven games have given Swindon overdue reward for their perseverance with style in a seemingly lost cause, and they will take on Arsenal with the wholehearted backing of many neutrals. David Seaman, the Arsenal goalkeeper and too often their principal playmaker for Ian Wright, remains unaffected by the criticism levelled at his team.

"There's a lot of pressure on us from the fans," Seaman said yesterday. "They expect us to win the championship, and nothing short of four wins in the next week will be enough to close the gap on Manchester United."

Are Arsenal negative? "Nothing has changed in our tactics since I've been here," Seaman insists. "The team is playing no differently to when we won the league, and it's certainly no different to last year's side which won the FA Cup and Coca-Cola Cup, and that wasn't too bad. We've had a rough patch but we will get it right."

Teddy Sheringham, the Tottenham Hotspur striker who has missed 12 matches after undergoing surgery on damaged knee ligaments, is unlikely to be risked against Norwich City at White Hart Lane this afternoon or in the match tomorrow at Upton Park, but Sheringham has made the most of his enforced lay-off, agreeing to a new three-year contract which is reported to be worth the best part of £1 million.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	22	53	+26	DWDWD
2	Leeds	22	40	+12	WWLWD
3	Blackburn	21	39	+11	LWWWD
4	Newcastle	21	36	+18	LWDWD
5	Arsenal	21	34	+7	WLDWL
6	Liverpool	21	32	+7	LWDDD
7	Norwich	19	31	+9	DLDWL
8	QPR	20	31	+6	LDDLW
9	Aston Villa	21	31	+1	LDDLL
10	Ipswich	21	29	-4	WDWDW
11	West Ham	21	29	-7	WWLWL
12	Wimbledon	21	28	-4	DLWWL
13	Sheffield Wed	21	27	+8	WWDLW
14	Tottenham	21	27	+5	DLDWD
15	Coventry	20	27	-2	LWLDW
16	Everton	21	25	-6	DWLDL
17	Manchester City	21	19	-8	LLWLL
18	Oldham	21	19	-16	WDWLD
19	Sheffield Utd	22	18	-15	WDWDL
20	Chelsea	21	15	-10	LDLLD
21	Southampton	21	14	-14	LLLLL
22	Swindon	21	14	-24	LDLDW

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

هكذا من الأصل

First-team men grab mid-season holiday

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE passing of the "friendly" fixture may be all but complete now but, Christmas being a time for reminiscence, matches between London Irish and Old Millhillians, and Bedford and Old Paulines, serve as reminders of the way things used to be.

It also illustrates how the game in England at one time depended on the old boys' clubs and the great teaching hospitals.

This season, for instance, Guy's Hospital have celebrated their 150th anniversary and remain unchallenged as the game's oldest club. Only eight of the founder clubs of the Rugby Football Union remain, and Guy's are one of them.

Followers might think that as players and clubs grow more ambitious and thirsty for success, the traditional Christmas fixtures might go by the board so that the games that matter, the league programme, may be given priority.

In a sense they do, because the first-team squads largely take a rest: witness John Hall, the Bath captain, who flew out to Barbados on Saturday for his Christmas holiday.

"I've played in every league and divisional game of the season," Hall said. "Players now look at the season, look at the fixtures they have, and say they will take a holiday on particular weekends. Nothing will change that. I enjoyed playing twice against the All Blacks but now is the right time for a break, and I need one."

The reverse of Hall's activity is the enforced rest that injury inflicts: thus Ieuan Evans, the Wales captain, and Emyr Lewis, are eager to test themselves in Llanelli's game today against London Welsh — the more so since selection for the first five nations' championship match, against Scotland on January 15, will be made on Thursday night.

The traditional neighbourly contest, though, gives other players the chance to represent their first teamm and, in the case of one of the older holiday games, such as the one between Coventry and Moseley, to maintain long-standing playing links which would otherwise have been ruptured when Coventry sank into the third division last season.

Moseley escaped that fate on points difference, but they will go to Coundon Road today aware that if Coventry sustain their progress, they will be together in the second division next season.

Coventry's three leading recruits have all come good this season. Of the 46 tries the team has have scored, 19 have come from Doug Woodman, the former Clifton wing, with nine, and Mark Douglas, the former London Welsh scrum half, who has scored six, while the flanker, Julian Horobun, once of Berry Hill, has four.

Despite a long-standing groin injury the experienced Douglas, capped three times by Wales in 1984, has been invaluable, while Horobin, who has switched from the blind-side flank to the open side, has reminded spectators of the ebullient Richard Webster, the Swansea flanker who has now departed to rugby league.

There is a buzz about the old West Midland giant, which is a tribute to Gerry Sugrue, the chairman, in his two years of office, and the work of Andy Johnson, the club's playing administrator.

They lead the third division with a three-point defeat by Rosslyn Park their only blemish, and hope that support will pick up during the second half of the season. "We have averaged around 1,500, but we are anticipating 3,000 for the Moseley fixture," John Butler, their fixture secretary, said.

Time was when 6,000 would have made their way to Coundon Road or the Reddings, but, as these two and many other clubs know, times have changed.



Hall prefers Barbados to Bath for his Christmas break during a hectic season

Powerhouse Panapa puts Wigan on top

Wigan 40
St Helens 8

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WIGAN are paying Va'aiga Tuigamala, the All Black winger, £300,000 over four years, but it was another New Zealander, almost let go by the club last year, who inspired this marvellous victory, scoring one try and laying on four of another six.

Sam Panapa, bought for £35,000 from Sheffield Eagles three years ago, was saved only by the intervention of John Monie, the former Wigan coach, who ensured he was retained for his versatility as forward and a back.

Coming on for Shaun Edwards after 21 minutes, Panapa's incisiveness, timing of the pass and power opened up St Helens with unerring precision.

It was a stunning *tour de force* that Tuigamala will watch in the garage of his mother's home in Auckland, where he is staying, with a good deal of trepidation. Many Wigan supporters in the 29,000 crowd at Central Park were asking where he would fit into the side.

Even the announcement of his signing, after the news had earlier been confirmed by the New Zealand Rugby Football Union, denying Wigan a piece of self-promotional theatre, was greeted with an air of disdain among Wigan supporters, who prefer the genuine rugby league article and remain to be convinced of Tuigamala's worth.

Against St Helens last Christmas, Wigan lost 41-6, their then worst loss in 20 years, so yesterday's win was fitting revenge, particularly as it elevated the champions to the top of the Stones Bitter Championship for the first time since October.

Eric Hughes, who takes over as St Helens coach today, was in the stands and witnessed his new side take an 8-0 lead after 15 minutes. However, those first few minutes proved to be misleading. On the frosty surface, Wigan seemed in disarray early on. Gary Connolly was sinbinned for speaking back to the referee, John Holdsworth, and Steve Prescott kicked the resulting goal. The teenage full back was on hand for a simple score when Offiah and Lydon failed to clear Griffiths's lofted ball into space; Riley was quickly up to hand Prescott his try.

On his arrival, Panapa's speed and eye for the opening helped Dermott to score. Farrell, a tower of strength in the second row, provided the impetus for the second Wigan try, sending away Connolly, who linked with Panapa: Offiah had the easiest of scores, rounding Riley in the left corner.

Those two tries in six minutes left St Helens helpless, and errors and indiscipline further invaded their play. When Dwyer caught Skerrett high, Botica converted the second of his three goals, although at 12-8 at half-time, the visitors were hardly out of the running.

Just two minutes into the second half, Panapa sent Farrell careering through the St Helens cover. This was followed by a 17-minute spell in which Wigan scored four more times.

Tuigamala will arrive in time for the Regal Trophy semi-final at Salford on January 8, although his debut is more likely to come in the Alliance Cup first-round tie against Swinton the previous night. John Dorahy, the Wigan coach, has earmarked him for centre and has said the player will not be rushed.

SCORERS: Wigan: Tries: Dermott, Offiah, Farrell, Clarke, Cowie, Edwards, Panapa. Goals: Botica (3), Lydon (3) St Helens: Try: Prescott. Goals: Prescott (2).
WIGAN: J Lydon, J Robinson, B Mather, G Connolly, M Offiah; F Botica, S Edwards (sub: S Panapa, 21min); K Skerrett, M Hall (sub: M Dermott, 18), A Platt, N Cowie, A Farrell, P Clarke
ST HELENS: S Prescott; M Riley, P Veivers, P Loughlin, A Sullivan; J Griffiths, A O'Donnell; A Dannatt, B Dwyer (sub: A Haig, 41), A Fogarty (sub: J Neill, 18), C Joynt, S Nickle, S Cooper
Referee: J Holdsworth.

CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	13	11	0	2	407	207	22
Warrington	14	11	0	3	300	197	22
Bradford	13	11	0	2	359	266	22
Halifax	15	9	2	4	324	256	20
Castleford	14	9	1	4	361	187	19
St Helens	15	9	1	5	344	245	19
Featherstone	15	7	1	7	326	342	15
Widnes	13	7	0	6	231	252	14
Leeds	14	6	1	7	298	264	13
Hull	14	5	2	7	201	228	12
Salford	15	6	0	9	254	335	12
Sheffield	14	5	1	8	276	367	11
Hull KR	15	5	0	10	242	394	10
Oldham	15	4	0	11	273	288	8
Wakefield	15	4	0	11	190	324	8
Leigh	14	0	1	13	165	399	1

Bradford press on for title

STEVE McGowan, who lost his place in the centre, scored a hat-trick of tries from the wing to maintain Bradford Northern's challenge for the Stones Bitter rugby league championship with a 26-18 defeat of Halifax. Northern are level with Wigan and Warrington on 22 points.

McGowan, who lost his place after the arrival of the record signing, Paul Newlove, scored his tries to put Bradford into a 20-6 lead shortly after half-time. Paul Dixon, once of Halifax, had also gone over — and Halifax seemed out of contention. But tries by John Bentley and Gary Divorty brought hope of a recovery until Neil Summers scored Bradford's fifth.

Castleford remained on the fringe of the championship circle with a 28-18 win at Featherstone, winger St John Ellis taking just 17 minutes to score the first two of their five tries.

Tony Kemp and Mike Ford, Castleford's half-backs, were in sparkling form and the hard-working Lee Crooks also made a big contribution at prop.

Wakefield's relegation problems were increased at Leeds where they lost an all-action match 20-16. The big holiday crowd of 14,541 were treated to an exciting contest that was in doubt to the final whistle. Trinity scored two tries against four but trailed by only four points in the last quarter.

Wakefield are on eight points, level with Oldham who lost 20-8 at home to Salford.

It was Oldham's sixth defeat in seven championship matches. There was nothing much in the first half which ended 4-4, a snow-packed surface making good rugby difficult. But after winger Phil Ford's try in the second half Salford took complete control.

Hull Kingston Rovers beat Hull 14-6 in the Humberside derby and slightly eased their relegation worries. The crucial period of the game was a five-minute first half spell during which Rovers grabbed ten points.

Results, page 18

Stirling stay undaunted by distance and defeat

Northampton 55
Stirling County 7

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

STIRLING County travelled 378 miles by coach to Northampton yesterday only to lose by six goals, two tries and a dropped goal to a goal. But they believed it had been worth it; and they still have New Year's eve to celebrate, anyway.

Fourth in the McEwan's first division, Stirling are an independent club and do not mind how far they go for their rugby as long as they benefit from the experience. They are among those who disagree with the concept introduced this season of the Scottish-Irish district championship; they do not think Scottish rugby will be improved thereby and would welcome the chance to play more leading English sides.

Doubtless, though, they would prefer the score to be more even-handed. When this fixture began in 1991 they had a strong side and still lost; yesterday at Franklins Gardens they were without their three A internationals, all involved against Ireland tomorrow, and two more regulars, unable to travel, which left Northampton free to offer some of their youngsters the chance to impress.

The youngsters were led by an old head, Wayne Shelford, guesting from Roma where he is now player-coach, received a festive welcome from the 5,000 crowd who would have been even happier had he been able to work his way over for a try. He left that to the next generation, led by the likes of Matthew Foster, last season's youth team captain, who was making his debut in the centre and celebrated with the fifth try.

Northampton were able to run through a repertoire of moves which seldom receive an airing in the tight atmosphere of league rugby. The first, from a tapped penalty, allowed Phillips to run through without a hand laid on him, although Stirling made up for that in the lineout where plenty of hands were laid on the home jumpers.

The eight home tries were evenly divided between the two halves, but Scottish heads never dropped as the score mounted. There were some delicate touches from McKenzie, who jinked neatly through for his side's try, and some elusive running from Crawford. However, they could not match Northampton for pace or power.

Twice in the second quarter, Northampton cut loose from long range: with Stirling camped on their line, they broke the shackles and Hunter made 60 metres, regathered his own kick and seemed over, only to be recalled. Immediately before the interval Foster made a delightful break, Thorneycroft ran strongly inside him and Packman appeared for the try which capped a 70-metre move.

Hunter also showed that place-kicking forms part of his portfolio by landing six conversions. If England require their full back to kick goals, they may do worse than introduce Hunter to David Alred, the Bristol kicking supremo.

SCORERS: Northampton: Tries: Phillips (2), Hunter (2), Packman (2), Foster, Merlin. Conversions: Hunter (6). Dropped goal: Packman. Stirling County: Try: McKenzie. Conversion: McKenzie.
NORTHAMPTON: I Hunter; K Morgan, M Foster, F Packman, H Thorneycroft; S Tubb, R Rees; M Vollenda, A Clarke, G Pearce, D Merlin, J Phillips, N Edwards, P Pask, W Shelford. L Mott rep Tubb (58min), G Webster rep Phillips (65).
STIRLING COUNTY: R Maller; S Crawford, J Wright, M McStrendles, A Turner; M McKenzie, K Harper; J Gibson, G Rutherford, G Robertson, G Flockhart, S Hamilton, M Norval, B Ireland, J Brough. A Logan rep Maller (17min), G McKay rep Ireland (40), D Bryce rep Harper (62).
Referee: A Sparks (Warwickshire).

Matches in borders fall victim to snow

THE rugby programme today in Scotland seems certain to be affected by the snow (Alan Lorimer writes).

Selkirk yesterday postponed their Bank of Scotland Border League match against Kelso. A decision on the other two games in this competition, Jed-Forest v Hawick and Gala v Melrose, will be made today. Most of the other clubs in Scotland also adopted a "wait and see" policy on today's matches.

Stuart Henderson, the Melrose secretary, said the club are now considering introducing undersoil heating. Meanwhile, there remains uncertainty over the venue for the Scotland A match against Ireland A tomorrow. The game, originally scheduled for Hughenden in Glasgow, may be switched to nearby Balgray, but if that is unplayable, a second standby venue at Millbrae has been nominated.

Ultimately, the game may go ahead at Murrayfield which, given the unpredictability of the weather at this time of year, ought to have been the first choice for such an important fixture.

Cheshire retain trophy with a draw

ROBERT Crutchley rescued Cheshire, who drew 2-2 with Lancashire, and retained the traditional Boxing Day Hockey Trophy at Brooklyns yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes). His late goal from a short corner restored Cheshire's fortunes on an exciting day in which Lancashire won the veterans' match 2-1.

Cheshire turned the tables at under-21 level with a victory by the same score and the draw in the senior match left both teams on level terms with the same goal difference. Cheshire, as holders, earned the right to keep the trophy.

In the all-important senior match there was no score at half-time, but soon after the resumption of play Lancashire went ahead with a well taken goal by John Woods, who picked up a centre from the right.

Andy Aldred levelled the score for Cheshire, but John Bell restored Lancashire's lead in the 45th minute. Three minutes later Crutchley decided the fate of the match and the trophy. He took his place yesterday at sweeper with Martyn Grimley, the captain, operating in midfield. The Lancashire side was led by Andy Ferns.

Crutchley, formerly of Neston, has been playing with distinction this season for Hounslow, and has earned his place in the Great Britain squad for the four nations' tournament at Barcelona early next month and the Champions Trophy at Lahore, Pakistan, in March.

In the veterans' match played in the morning, Vic Hardman's goal from a penalty stroke for Cheshire was answered by goals for Lancashire by Jim Campbell and John Ogilby.

John Shannon put Cheshire ahead in the under-21 game, but Robin Benford replied for Lancashire from a penalty stroke. Sajeev Singh turned the match in favour of Cheshire with a goal ten minutes before the end.

The festival scene moves south tomorrow, to Cheam, where Jon Molloy will lead the attack for the President's XI against the Club First XI in the annual Dick Hollands Memorial Match.

Molloy has scored 13 goals for Surbiton, the leaders of the second division, in the Pizza Express national league. He is joined by two other players from Surbiton, Matt Miles and David Justesen. Guy Marchant of Richmond adds sharpness to the attack.

In attempting to maintain his long sequence of successes, Tony Bennett, the Cheam president, has put his first trust in experience, having called on Ian Pinks of Sevenoaks who, between 1974 and 1977, played 12 times for England.

All the same, he claims to have made a skilful mixture of youth and experience by calling on Paul Mulligan and Danny Byfith of Old Walcountians. A few players will be performing on grass for the first time.

PRESIDENT'S SQUAD: M Miles (Surbiton), T Oddy (Hazelmere), D Justesen (Surbiton), W Davies (Wimbledon), S Cox (Slough), I Pinks (Sevenoaks), G Marcham (Richmond), J Molloy (Surbiton), N Pendel (Chichester), M Cox (Old Kingstonians), P Mulligan (Old Walcountians), D Byfith (Old Walcountians).

WIN A WEEKEND IN SCOTLAND WITH THE TIMES

Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz



Scottish Rugby: when the going gets tough, the tough get going

For lovers of all things Scottish, the countryside, the history and the poetry but most of all the whisky

Lovers of the annual Aberlour Malt Whisky competition will have to re-direct and re-apply their talents this year. The usual competition is bigger, harder, more detailed and longer than ever before. And it now encompasses many more subjects.

In celebration of all things Scottish, *The Times* is proud to present the first ever Aberlour Hogmanany Quiz. We have teamed up with the classic Speyside malt yet again to bring you further reason to revere, respect and relish Scotland.

Over the next five days the Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz will test your general knowledge of all things Scottish. Each day there will be ten questions on a chosen theme. The top prize is a tailor-made weekend for two in Scotland, catering to the winner's personal likes and dislikes.

The week's themes will be: Today — Sport; Tuesday — History; Wednesday — Geography; Thursday — Art and Literature; Friday — Food and Drink.

So, encyclopaedias at the ready, malt whisky in the glass and haggis on the plate. Today we bring you sport from north of the border.

HOW TO ENTER

EVERY day this week *The Times* will publish ten questions, today's questions are printed, right. When you have the answers to all fifty questions, send them with your name and address to: The Times/Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz, 18-19 Whitefriars Street, London EC8B 2NG, to arrive no later than Monday, January 10, 1994. The winner will be chosen from all correct entries received by this date. Normal Times Newspaper competition rules apply.

ABERLOUR

PRIZES

- The first correct entry drawn form the "hat" will win a tailormade sporting weekend for two in Scotland. This can either be golfing, fishing or simply touring the distilleries.
- The second and third all correct entries drawn will win a weekend for two on Speyside, the home of Aberlour. Winners will fly to Aberdeen and spend two nights at the Craigellachie Hotel.
- The next 50 all correct answers drawn will receive a special Aberlour/Riedel glass pack, with a 35cl bottle of Aberlour Single Malt and two malt whisky glasses.
- Plus a further 50 correct entries will win a bottle of Aberlour Single Malt.
- Everyone with all correct answers will receive a miniature of Aberlour.
- Plus everyone who enters will receive a £2.00 off voucher for their next purchase of Aberlour.

QUESTIONS

1. Who, in recent years, has represented Scotland at both football and cricket?

2. Who scored a penalty to take Scotland to the 1978 World Cup, but, once there, missed one?

3. Name three racing drivers with Scottish towns in their names.

4. Who won the women's 10,000 metres at the 1991 World championships in Tokyo?

5. Who was the last Scottish athlete to win an Olympic gold medal?

6. In which two years has Edinburgh hosted the Commonwealth Games?

7. Which football team has been sponsored by Aberlour Single Malt?

8. Which Scottish cyclist has smashed records on his home-made bike?

9. When do salmon fishers stop using shrimps on their lines?

10. Which is the shortest of the St Andrews' golf courses?

Good times and growing pains in football

Starting a series of four articles on the daily lives of people in sport, **Oliver Holt** meets Jamie Redknapp, the Liverpool player

A WORKING LIFE IN SPORT

A few minutes after 10am, the players began to arrive in a steady trickle and a small group of youngsters pressed their faces closer to the gap in the concrete wall. Two-and-a-half hours later, they were still there, their noses a rudder shade of pale, when Michael Thomas led the exodus from the Liverpool training ground and a succession of sleek cars followed him away.

Not for the players the prospect of working mornings drifting seamlessly into afternoons. In common with many football clubs, Liverpool does not encourage squad members to stay behind after training for some additional work, much less to return in the afternoon to concentrate on a particular aspect of their game. There are too many matches to play. Legs tire too easily.

Jamie Redknapp was the last to leave that Tuesday morning. He is only 20, courteous to a fault and a fine ambassador for his club. After he scored in the club's recent 3-3 draw with Spurs, Graeme Souness, his manager, said: "Apart from being one of the most exciting young players here, he is also ideal son-in-law material. If you had a daughter, you would be happy if she brought Jamie home."

Redknapp, like many players, has a car provided free of charge by a local dealer, he has cheap and handsome lodgings and a wealth of free time to lavish on his youth, together with a substantial salary; the least experienced Liverpool first-team player earns about £1000 per week, the highest-paid more than £10,000. He is neither a pub person nor a reader. He spends many of his afternoons and evenings either at his girlfriend's house or at the flat owned by his team-mate, Don Hutchison, listening to soul music.

"I live about two minutes away from the training ground," Redknapp said, "so on a Monday morning, I just get out of bed and come straight here. Training starts about 10.30 or 11am; it just depends how they feel. We usually do roughly the same thing every morning. If we have had a good result on the Saturday, you just go out and enjoy it. If you haven't had a good result, then you start to work. They do not encourage you to do a lot of ball skills. I think they feel you do enough in the games."

The players repeat the routine on Tuesdays unless there is a match that evening. "If there is a night game, we come in in the morning and have a little warm-up and then go to the hotel for something to eat. I room with Neil Ruddock and we have a kip for a couple of hours in the afternoon just to relax us. If we have a match on the Tuesday, they might give us the Wednesday off, but if we have a match on the Wednesday, they bring us in on the Thursday to have a bath. They say: 'Come in at 12 and have a bath.' It is something they have done for years and they are very superstitious. You just have a wash and some lunch."

Fridays bring a five-a-side and some work on set-pieces. On Saturdays, they go to the training ground for lunch — one of the innovations introduced by Souness that prompted criticism from the likes of Tommy Smith, the former Liverpool player — watch *Football Focus* on *Grandstand* and then set off for Anfield. Saturday nights and Sundays are free and Redknapp tries to return home to Bournemouth as often as he can.

Easy life? Perhaps. But Redknapp's father, Harry, the West Ham United assistant manager, insisted a footballer's lot is harder now than it was in the Sixties, when he was a player. "We do have groups back in the afternoons sometimes," he said, "and you have to drag people like Clive Allen off the training pitch because he's so keen on shooting practice. But they play so many games today, it is hard to fit training in."

Redknapp Jr is popular with the Liverpool fans, which he readily acknowledges eases the pressure that can be a daunting aspect of many players' lives. Yet the team plays up to 60 games in a season and there is only a short close-season break before the hard running begins in preparation for the new footballing year.

Redknapp also bears heavy responsibilities for one so young. He must behave in restaurants and nightclubs and not act as some other 20-year-olds do. As a high-profile sportsman, he has to set an example. Hutchison let his guard drop recently and found his picture on the front page of a Sunday newspaper and a hefty club fine heading his way.

"I am one of the younger lads at the club and we are only human," Redknapp said, "so on Saturday nights Steve McManaman, Rob Jones, Don and I might go out to have a laugh at a club. If we had a game on the Monday or Tuesday, then we wouldn't. You do it when the time is right. When you find yourself in the privileged position that I am in, you have got to take care how you conduct yourself. That is part of growing up. You have got to realise what is right and what is wrong."

Unlike those bearing the names of Ian Rush and John Barnes, Redknapp's pigeon hole is not yet full of invitations to open supermarkets and pubs, but he is recognised in the street and dutifully fulfils his obligations to attend supporters' club functions.

"It is a good life," he said. "I have always wanted to be a footballer and I would not change it for anything, but it is a hard life as well because there are so many ups and downs. It is horrible when you are not in the team. I was dropped earlier in December and you wonder what is going to happen. There is a lot of uncertainty. Everyone wants to play. They say you get good money, but you are doing it for yourself, for your pride."

Setbacks are magnified, too, when you are young and a long way from home. Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, admitted recently he failed to shield Andy Cole from off-the-field pressures by neglecting to oversee his choice of accommodation. Souness, by contrast, could not have been more diligent with Redknapp.

"I got very homesick when I first came here," Redknapp said. "I was only 17 and I am really close to my family. I still speak to my Mum and Dad every day. I had grown up playing at Bournemouth, when my Dad was manager. It was a real wrench leaving and the distance caused me to split up with the girl I was going out with then. We saw each other less and less and when she did visit we spent a lot of the time arguing.

"Soon after I arrived in Liverpool, I was going to buy a flat, but the gaffer found out and he was a little bit worried. He thought I was too young. He said he knew somebody who wanted a lodger and he wanted me to move in with them. I wasn't too sure about it but I thought I better give it a try because I didn't want to argue with him. It has worked out fantastically. They do everything for me and it is as close to home as it could be. I like to eat a lot of pasta and they do my cooking and ironing for me. It has been a right touch, that, a right result."

Simon McNeill, the jockey





Redknapp at rest and at play, relaxing at his home and in action for Liverpool. Photographs: Barry Greenwood and Shaun Botterill/Allsport

Lendl may retire at end of next season

IVAN Lendl yesterday gave the first indication that he is thinking of ending his tennis career after perhaps his most disappointing year since he appeared on the world stage in the late Seventies. The big-serving American, who was born in Czechoslovakia, admitted: "I'm going to have another crack at it, but if I play lousy, there's a good chance 1994 could be my last year."

Lendl, 33, will finish 1993 outside the world top ten men's rankings for the first time since 1979. Although still eleventh on the list of money-winners, with $1 million to his name this year, he dropped from eighth to 19th in the men's rankings and won only two grand prix titles, in Munich and Tokyo.

Lendl once held the No 1 ranking for 270 weeks, a record, yet this year he suffered unexpected first-round defeats at the Australian and French Opens.

"There are some days when he still hits the ball like a top four player," Andre Agassi said after defeating Lendl at a tournament in August.

Lendl responded: "I don't think I belong out of the top 10 yet, but there are reasons why it happened I couldn't control. It is not due to a lack of skill, it was more a lack of movement in my hip and legs."

Lendl, who will play at the Australian Open next month, has won eight Grand Slam titles but last held the No 1 ranking in 1990, after winning the Australian Open. Born in Ostrava, he later took United States citizenship.

☐ Martina Navratilova's final season in women's professional tennis will start in Tokyo when she goes onto the court to defend her title at the Pan-Pacific Open tournament, but her decision to play then means she will miss the Australian Open in January.

Houston capitalise on Young's fumble

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE meeting of the highest-scoring American football teams in the NFL yesterday turned into a mistake-filled, low-scoring affair as the Houston Oilers beat the San Francisco 49ers 10-7 at Candlestick Park for their tenth straight victory.

The win kept Houston in the race for the coveted home advantage in the AFC play-offs. Defeat for the 49ers, who failed to score with Steve Young at quarterback, brought a run of 13 successive home victories to an end. They had already clinched the NFC West title and a bye in the first round of the play-offs.

San Francisco, who scored 55 points in the victory at Detroit last week, were held scoreless until Amp Lee's eight-yard touchdown run with 12 minutes remaining. It capped a 12-play, 73-yard drive directed by Steve Bono, who relieved Young with 3½ minutes left in the third quarter. There was no immediate explanation for the removal of Young, who was 15-of-29 for 178 yards before leaving. He was intercepted twice and fumbled to set up a Houston score.

The Oilers also had turnover problems and Warren Moon had to leave the game with just under seven minutes left with bruised ribs. He was replaced by Cody Carlson.

Moon had a touchdown pass but was off target much of the day, completing 11-of-26 for 158 yards. He was also intercepted three times, twice by the cornerback, Michael McGruder, whose second interception came midway through the third quarter.

McGruder returned the interception 15 yards and San Francisco took over on their 30-yard line. After a five-yard scramble by Young, he completed a 22-yard pass to Lee and a 32-yard throw to Jerry Rice to reach the Houston 11-yard line. The drive stalled, however, and Mike Cofer's 24-yard field goal was blocked by Eddie Robinson. Houston twice blunted San Francisco drives with end-zone interceptions and led 10-0 at half-time, cashing in on Young's fumble with a seven-yard touchdown pass from Moon to Ernest Givins. Al Del Greco added a 24-yard field goal.

Blaine Bishop, a rookie starting in place of Bubba McDowell, the injured safety, sacked Young and forced the fumble, recovering at the San Francisco 18-yard line. Three plays later, Moon found Givins for the score. Moon matched Young with two first-half interceptions but San Francisco were unable to capitalise.

Meanwhile, teams have spent more than $100 million to satisfy salary demands from players before the NFL's limits on wages are introduced next season. Troy Aikman, the Dallas Cowboys quarterback, made the biggest gain on Thursday, the deadline for offering future contracts that will not be subject to the salary cap, with an eight-year deal worth $50 million. Aikman, 27, will receive an $11 million signing bonus and salaries ranging from $1.75 million in 1994 to $7.5 million in 2000. Aikman led the Cowboys to victory in the Super Bowl last season.



Moon, the Houston quarterback, is tackled by Stubblefield, of San Francisco. Photograph: Susan Ragan

Moser aims to regain record

BY PETER BRYAN

THE ride planned by Francesco Moser to mark the tenth anniversary of his world one-hour record, has assumed loftier ambitions. Moser is one of the most revered European cyclists of the past 15 years and instead of a simple celebration, he will attempt to regain his record by dethroning the holder, the Olympic gold medal-winning Briton, Chris Boardman.

Moser, 42, set his record of 51.151km at altitude in Mexico City in January 1984. Then, it was considered unbeatable, but in June this year, to the disbelief of the Italian, Graeme Obree, the Scottish amateur, raised the distance to 51.59km riding a home-made and unconventional bike in Norway at sea level.

Six days later, in Bordeaux, Boardman, also an amateur and the Olympic pursuit champion who had made the record his prime target of the year, improved Obree's figures to 52.27km. Moser was doubly stung, particularly that his "unbeatable" distance had twice been bettered by two amateurs within a week. Both Obree and Boardman are now professionals.

Now Moser plans to regain the record. Since his retirement he has never stopped riding, but in recent months he has returned to full-time training. He is now in Mexico, with an entourage of coaches, doctors and mechanics to prepare for an attempt to regain the record.

"It looks as though he will get it, too," Boardman said yesterday when he heard of the Italian's plans while preparing to join Greg LeMond's GAN team in France next month.

"Moser has paid to have the Mexico track surfaced," Boardman added. "I'm told that, in training, he has been riding at 52kmph for half an hour. Now, basically, you don't go to all that trouble just for a personal best. If he had only wanted that he could have gone to his favourite indoor track in Stuttgart.

"I can only think from what I hear that he's capable of breaking my record when he attempts it, probably on January 14." Boardman has no immediate plans to respond to Moser should the Italian break the record, however.

He had expected that the early challengers for his record to be Obree and Miguel Indurain, the Tour de France winner, but both could now be up-staged by an in-form Moser, has spent much of his time since at his vineyards in northern Italy.

"I'm not keen to attack a new Moser record," Boardman said. He is resisting the temptation of trying to improve it, preferring to adjust slowly to his new status.

"I would rather get right my first full year as a professional," he said. "My sponsors have been generous about my programme for 1994 and have agreed to give me seven weeks free from team commitments so that I can prepare for the world pursuit championship or the new individual road time-trial."



Boardman: set record

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هكذا من الاصل



ROCK page 26
One hit succeeds another in Wembley Arena at Madness's Christmas show

ARTS

BOOKS page 27
Reality is to the imagination what ash stakes are to vampires, says Stephen King



SIX SHOWS THAT SHOCKED THE WORLD: *Times* critics relive the century's great cultural sensations

The film they loved to ape

DAY ONE: **Geoff Brown** looks back to 1933 and the premiere in New York of *King Kong*, the first great monster movie



KOBAL COLLECTION

"The world's eighth wonder then moves onto what might be the ninth, the Empire State Building, only just opened. Bi-planes fly in, strafing him with bullets"

The date is Thursday, March 2, 1933: two days away from President Roosevelt's inauguration. Over 15 million Americans are out of work. There are breadlines outside, but you are seated in comfort in one of the most splendiferous theatres in the world, Radio City Music Hall in New York, just opened in a blaze of Art Deco glory.

In your hands you hold a souvenir programme. "Out of an uncharted, forgotten corner of the world," you read, eyes widening, "a monster... surviving seven million years of evolution... crashes into the haunts of civilisation... on to the talking screen... to stagger the imagination of man!"

> 'After Kong, no movie monster left a city unscathed'

The curtains, vast enough to need 13 motors to get them moving, part to reveal the main attraction: *King Kong*, made for RKO Pictures by Merian C. Cooper and Ernest B. Schoedsack. Three descending, dark orchestral chords thunder out from the film soundtrack. The cast list promises willowy heroine Fay Wray, hard-boiled character-player Robert Armstrong, 'a new actor,' Bruce Cabot, and, in particularly large letters, King Kong himself, modestly described as "the eighth wonder of the world".

Your imagination prepares to be staggered, though at first the story's settings prove nothing new: New York's docks, Times Square, a girl trying to steal from a fruit stall: these are run-of-the-mill scenes. But then Armstrong, cast as a pipe-smoking director who makes "moving pictures in jungles and places", prevents Miss Wray fainting from hunger, signs her up for his latest venture, and sails off with cameras and crew for a secret destination.

Along the way, you hear talk of Kong, a mythical creature. Then Skull Island is sighted through the fog, and the film crew approach a landscape with the dense detail and fantasy of a Gustave Doré illustration. "Holy mackerel, what a show!" Armstrong shouts as he watches village natives preparing to sacrifice a nubile girl to something that lives beyond a huge wall and a towering gate, held in place by a bolt the size of Nelson's Column.

Forty minutes after the curtains parted, the terrifying leading man — this monster who crashes the haunts of civilisation — appears. He is a 50-foot gorilla, who roars, flares his nostrils and beats his chest like no other movie hero. The blonde Wray he takes to immediately, despite her constant screaming; most other humans who fall in his path get scooped up into his mouth, or cast aside like dust. His strength is colossal. "What a man!" a young spectator shouts: a response reported in *The New York Times*'s review.

There are more horrors yet. A supporting cast of prehistoric creatures do battle with Kong or man, or both. A stegosaurus is felled by gunfire. Eager to protect his new female playmate, Kong gives a tyrannosaurus rex a thorough hiding plus a broken jaw, and tosses away a pterodactyl as though it were a broken umbrella. Wray, her clothes in disarray, wriggles helplessly inside Kong's huge hand.

Sometimes you laugh at the horrors depicted, maybe to cover fright. Most times you sit there, awed and gripped.

Then this superbly constructed film reaches the finale. Kong, stunned by gas bombs, is crated and shipped to New York, a delicate process that happens, infuriatingly, off-screen. Taking his cue from P.T. Barnum, Armstrong is now presenting Kong, the world's eighth wonder, as a Broadway theatre attraction. "We've knocked some of the fight out of him since you saw him," Armstrong tells an understandably wary Wray.

The fight soon returns. Kong breaks his chains and runs rampant through Manhattan, seeking his girl. His face looms outside apartment windows, and a hairy arm reaches through the door to check who's home alone. Train passengers tumble into a heap as Kong wrecks the elevated track: one of them could be you, returning home after this movie!

The world's eighth wonder, 50 feet tall, then moves onto what might be the ninth, the Empire State Building, 1250 feet tall, opened only the previous May. Buzzing bi-planes fly in, strafing him with bullets. He places Wray carefully on a ledge; he keels over, and tumbles down to the ground. Does he squash cars, or cause a crater? You never know: all you see is a heap of dead gorilla, police in attendance, while Armstrong delivers the wrap-up line. Airplanes didn't destroy Kong, he says: "'Twas beauty killed the beast".

Over the next few weeks, people flock to marvel and occasionally giggle at a film that will revolutionise cinema fantasy and save its studio from bankruptcy. On March 24, Kong makes his official Los Angeles debut at Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Soon after he swamps the cinemas of the world, carrying advertising slogans like "The Strangest Story Ever Conceived By Man!" or "The Greatest Film The World Will Ever See!"

Was it? Is it? Sixty years on, *King Kong* remains a genuine classic, though one we tend to take for granted. So many monster offspring have been spawned in its wake; while computers have taken special effects beyond any realm envisaged by Willis O'Brien, the genius responsible for the stop-motion photography and model work that brought the big ape to life.

But imagine the impact in 1933, when outsize, prehistoric creatures were as rare as hen's teeth. For a version of Conan Doyle's *The Lost World* in 1925, O'Brien had created a brontosaurus who laid waste London buildings with a whisk of its tail and ended the film by falling off Tower Bridge. The menagerie of *King Kong*, though, was far bigger, scalier, hairier.

Another thing: they made sounds. Who in the public, before 1933, had ever heard prehistoric monsters roar, belch and screech? Five years earlier, before talkies became the norm, movie characters were still communicating in dumb show. Now, suddenly, fearsome creatures were vocalising in a primeval forest. The sound team used every trick in the book. Conventional animal sounds were recorded one octave lower, backwards, upside down. They were then combined with motley novelties: the thud of a drumstick on the soundman's back; someone grunting unpleasantly into a gourd.

Not to mention the screams. No one in cinema had ever screamed as much as Fay Wray: once Kong was sighted, she opened her mouth and let rip, scene after scene. Then came Max Steiner, adding his pennyworth on the soundtrack with one of the most extensive and noisiest film scores yet composed.

What's more, audiences watched this monster rampage through the streets outside the very cinema where they sat. Possibly they felt vicarious pleasure, watching the brute destroy a culture that had brought so many lives close to ruin since the Wall Street crash. At any rate, after Kong no movie monster left a city unscathed.

Two days after *King Kong* was unleashed, Roosevelt took office in Washington. "We have nothing to fear but fear itself," he declared in the inaugural address that launched the New Deal. Good news for many, maybe; but small comfort to audiences quaking in their shoes at this 50-foot ape.

King Kong shook the world. More than *Frankenstein* or *Dracula*, two horror milestones of 1931, it galvanised audiences and stretched the boundaries of film fantasy. Along the way it gave modern gorillas (gentle, vegetarian) an undeserved bad name, made terror a marketable commodity, and paved the way for everything from *Jurassic Park* to *Godzilla Versus the Smog Monster*. We live under its shadow.

● **Tomorrow:** The advent of Jimi Hendrix, by David Sinclair

How the West End was fun

The big-thinking, big-spending Augustus Harris changed pantomime — and Wagner. **David Robinson** reports

The big London event of Boxing Day 1893 was the premiere of the new Drury Lane pantomime. More than 3,000 people thronged the theatre, for the cast of *Robinson Crusoe* boasted three of the biggest stars of the music hall — Marie Lloyd, Little Tich and, as Mrs Crusoe, Dan Leno. The settings and costumes were, as always, sumptuous: the shipwreck was spectacular.

The production was an unmitigated flop. The book was a mess — *Robinson Crusoe* is always the riskiest pantomime story — and the music hall artists confused it even more with irrelevant songs and business. The whole audience was yawning long before the finale, an interminable, bejewelled parade of the kings and queens of England from William the Conqueror to Victoria.

Even if this fiasco somewhat dispels the rosy glow of nostalgia that generally surrounds Victorian pantomime, *Crusoe* was a rare exception in a triumphant 40-year run of Drury Lane productions, which transformed the Christmas pantomime into a new and unique style of stage spectacle.

The man responsible was a tubby, balding, bearded dynamo called Augustus Harris who was 28 when he became lessee of the Lane in 1879. His father was a famous operatic impresario, and between pantomimes young Harris presented grand opera at Drury Lane and Covent Garden.

Indeed, he seemed hardly to differentiate between opera and pantomime, particularly when it came to Wagner. For Bernard Shaw it made perfect sense that Harris called *Das Rheingold* "a damned pantomime". Wagner had been much impressed by English pantomimes, and Shaw declared that the subsequent staging of his operas was deeply indebted to the Drury Lane Christmas shows: "We owe the present enormously effective form of the *Nibelung* tetralogy, a work which towers among the masterpieces of the world's art, to the persistence of just such entertainments as *Aladdin*."

Never before had London seen such stage spectacle as Harris gave them. An army of designers, scene painters, costumiers, prop-makers, wig-makers and engineers worked for months on the preparation of the dozen or more different scenes in the pantomime.

The production employed upwards of 700 people, some 500 of whom, including extras and children, might appear on stage. For one pantomime Harris introduced an arrangement of giant mirrors so that his crowd scenes appeared to go on for ever.

Harris's extravagances anticipated the great days of Hollywood. He thought nothing of spending a fortune on a scene and then discarding it on a whim. He bought warehouses full of silks and brocades that were never used. It was said that when a comedian asked if he could introduce a new joke about an English and a French sailor, Harris was enthusiastic. "Certainly, my boy," he said. "Put it in and we'll arrange a procession for it — sailors of all nations."

Every pantomime featured a procession; with scores of pretty women dressed to represent Shakespearean characters, roses of all varieties, costumes of all nations, sports, nursery rhymes, figures from Greek mythology, fish or fowl.

The Harris pantomimes had their detractors. Traditionalists blamed them for the extinction of the transformation scene and the harlequinade, which had been the traditional finale of the pantomime for over a century. Others objected to the invasion of the music hall people.

But Drury Lane's greatest comic star remained above all criticism. Harris had first engaged Leno, then 28, for the 1888 pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*. He was to return each Christmas until his death in 1904. From Leno's photographs and recordings and the evidence of his contemporaries we can judge that he was one of the greatest comic actors of the British theatre.



A hundred years ago the versatile Dan Leno was bigger than the Beatles among the music hall-going populace

Max Beerbohm described his face, "puckered with cares, whether they were the cares of the small shopkeeper, or the landlady, or of the lodger; that face so tragic, with all the tragedy that is writ on the face of a baby monkey". His characterisations combined brilliant human observation with surreal nonsense in the Lewis Carroll vein. Chattering confidentially to his audience, he could people the stage with imaginary beings to whom he would address animated asides.

Tiny and nervous, Leno was ideally teamed with the heavyweight, phlegmatic Herbert Campbell. Both possessed a surprising gift of pathos: as a wildly grotesque pair of Babes in the Wood they suddenly stilled the laughter with their gentle singing of the angel's song from *Hansel and Gretel*.

In 1902 Leno began to suffer from severe mental disturbance, yet that Christmas and the following year he came back to Drury Lane, his comedy as brilliant as ever. In 1904 Campbell was killed in an accident; Leno, apparently grief-stricken, died three months later.

Harris died in 1896, aged 45, but his successor Arthur Collins carried on the tradition. Leno and Campbell were irreplaceable, but Collins brought in some capable comedians — Harry Randall, Will Evans, Stanley and Barry Lupino, George Graves — and maintained the supply of pretty girls and strapping principal boys, until the great Drury Lane tradition came to an end, with *Cinderella*, in 1919.

CONCERT: An eclectic programme from the Hilliard Ensemble

Old and new in harmony

One magnificent polyphonic mass five centuries old, ornate and exquisite plainchant, and four new pieces including a London premiere of a work by James MacMillan and three first British performances: this offering by the Hilliard Ensemble, given as part of Magenta Music's annual Christmas Festival at St John's, Smith Square might be criticised for lacking any Christmas music, but it certainly did not lack imagination.

The Hilliards might not be the last word in period-style performance practice, but the complex rhythms and lines of Ockeghem's Missa Prolationem benefit from the clarity that singing the work one voice to a part brings. Sometimes speeds seemed a little hurried, and the variety of dynamic within single phrases occasionally lent the performance a slightly affected air; but those things are all part of the group's identity.

Such fine, committed and poised singing also predictably characterised the four recent works. MacMillan's... *here in hiding* ..., jumbles and superimposes St Thomas Aquinas's hymn "Adoro te devote" and Gerard Manley Hopkins's free translation of it. Though this way of dealing with words obscures clarity and context, MacMillan writes as always with the devoutest of hearts, painting a varied canvas of lovely sounds for his God.

Dual texts seemed to be a theme of the evening. Elizabeth Liddle's *Whale Rant* also has one (or two), both taken from Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. But here they are opposites. Father Mapple's hymn takes us from damnation to redemption, while Ahab's soliloquy rejects redemption in favour of eternal hell. Liddle's music maintains this polarity, setting the priest's words to a pious hymn tune sung by two tenors and simultaneously giving the darker words to the bass in music of a dense, declamatory style. No dynamic opposition is set up, no interreaction occurs, and again intelligibility is compromised.

Piers Hellawell's *River and Shadow*, a duel setting of Donne's "A Lecture upon The Shadow" and Apollinaire's "Le Pont Mirabeau", alternates rather than superimposes texts, and the composer is thus able to emphasise both common ground and differences of emphasis — decay in Donne, stasis in Apollinaire. Unafraid of Poulencian echoes in his French settings, and of onomatopoeia — the breaking up of texture to signify fragmentation of love — in the Donne, Hellawell has made an artful and pregnant work.

So, in a very different way, has the American composer Jackson Hill in his *Aki no ko-e* ("Voices of Autumn"), a setting of a ninth-century Japanese text which consists essentially of delicate micro-inflexions upon a single, sustained A minor chord. Such space-creating poignancy is what minimalism should be all about, but too rarely is.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Drawings from
The J. Paul Getty Museum
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Comedy withers under the sun

TELEVISION: The Christmas weekend viewing was too rarely entertaining, says Lynne Truss

The scene is the stage of a second-class provincial theatre, the auditorium empty, the wings spookily silent. Enter Svetlovidov (Sir John Gielgud), a windy Shakespearean, an Aged Ham, who has accidentally failed to go home after the earlier success of his benefit night. The play is Chekhov's 1887 one-act **Swan Song** (Channel 4, Christmas Day), as directed by Kenneth Branagh, and it should be no surprise that Svetlovidov's conversation with his devoted prompter Nikita (Richard Briers) provides one of the biggest laughs of the entire Christmas weekend.

NIKITA (eager, concerned): You do still believe, don't you sir? In the theatre? It can inspire? It can lift up the spirit? It can remind us what a godlike thing it is to see the imagination soar and the words take wing?
SVETLOVIDOV (weary): Yes, yes, yes, of course it can, we all know that. (Pause) The bugger of it is, it hardly ever does.

The same bitter conclusion might be applied to Christmas television, of course. Aye, there's the bugger — as the famous Hamlet so rightly put it, probably after wearily predicting all the jokes in **Birds of a Feather** (BBC1, Christmas Day), and **One Foot in the Algarve** (BBC1, Sunday).

In common with most of us at yuletide, Hamlet is easily depressed by comedy, and sometimes he wonders aloud at the bizarre continuing convention of sending sitcom characters to sunny climes for their Christmas specials, especially after the Great Miami Tedium Fiasco of **Only Fools and Horses** in 1991.

This year, *Birds of a Feather* (hooray for Hollywood, in which Tracey and Sharon cleverly acquired deep tans on the flight) and *One Foot in the Algarve* (trip to Algarve, obviously) actually shared the same aeroplane joke, if that's at all interesting. The punchline to each was "The plane hasn't left the runway yet!", but mercifully I leave it to your imagination to fill in the rest.

On the other hand, the good stuff over the weekend was seriously enjoyable. **Bookmark's** special film about the formidably witty novelist and playwright Gwyn Thomas (BBC2, Christmas Day) fizzed with great one-liners, delivered with perfect Welsh twinkling seriousness by Anthony Hopkins on top form. Alan Plater had adapted Thomas's autobiography, and Tristram Powell directed; and the unaccustomed sense of programme-makers relishing words for their own sake was enough to leave you drunk with joy. "I don't think Dr Bronowski ever accorded me any clear identity," Thomas commented on his fellow Brains Trust panellist. "He looked at most people as though he had just rejected them from a theorem, and he looked at me as if I had never got into it."

But the undisputed star of the weekend was Nick Park's figure-animated short **The Wrong Trousers** (BBC2, Sunday), a follow-up to **A Grand Day Out** (re-shown on Christmas Day), in which the tank-topped Wallace and his mutely expressive dog Gromit travelled by home-made rocket to the moon. More tightly written than the previous film, *The Wrong Trousers* was the sort of piece you could watch four times in close succession (I did, I did) and still fall off the chair laughing.

The story entailed an insensitive present for Gromit — a pair of programmable Nasa "techno-trousers", intended for automated walkies — and a darkly malevolent very small penguin, who slap-footed into the household, rapidly supplanted Gromit in Wallace's fickle affections, planned a jewel robbery, and executed it with the aid of Wallace and the technotrousers. Gromit, it must be said, is master of the best reaction shots in the business. His knitting slows down, his eyes flicker with annoyance, pity, alarm, resignation, and sudden pained recollections of giddy aunts — sometimes a mixture of all at once. He is the Nicholas Lyndhurst of the canine world. He is Nicholas Lyndhurst with ears that can stand on end.

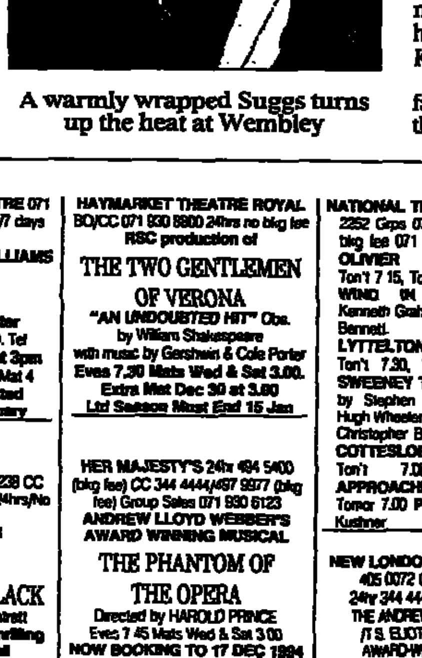
Meanwhile the humorous detail of *The Wrong Trousers* was staggeringly spot-on, from the wallpaper in Gromit's room (a bone motif, in blue) to his mealtime ritual of reading *The Republic of Pluto* (sic) in front of an OU programme. "Dog Reads Paper" is the headline of the newspaper he reads. And "Have You Seen This Chicken?" is the alarming legend on the Wanted poster that shows the dastardly penguin dressed for business, with a red rubber glove on its head.



Spot-on humorous detail: Wallace in Nick Park's brilliant piece of film animation, *The Wrong Trousers*

ROCK: No room for introspection, just one direct hit after another as Madness make their Christmas presence felt

No Nutty slack in the house of fun



A warmly wrapped Suggs turns up the heat at Wembley

Madness
Wembley Arena

ON THE basis that the nuts always come out at Christmas, Kentish Town's original Nutty Boys have been back on the boards this yuletide. Their short "Man In The Mad Suit" tour took in Manchester, Birmingham and "the exotic pyramids of Cardiff" as lead singer Suggs put it, before performing for a willing Wembley and mounting a challenge to Gary Glitter's seasonal supremacy at the venue.

Support act Carter USM, hitmakers of a wholly different kind with their relentlessly punning agit-rock, seemed unlikely bedfellows on an evening meant for wackiness. So it proved, and the biggest cheer they received came when they announced their imminent departure. An audience wearing Madness Santa hats and baying for their heroes like the most partisan football Kop was in no mood to be sober.

That Madness can attract such fanatical loyalty some seven years after they originally split up is testament to their achievements through the first half of the 1980s. Their brilliantly and impishly inventive pop music has not been rivalled since, chiefly because no one has had the wit to take on the music business and tickle it mercilessly, as they did.

It is clearly the lure of the lira that now occasionally draws them out of their thirtysomething retirement. There is talk of new recordings next year, but no one need question this strange after-life now enjoyed by the group as long as they can perfectly reproduce the snapshots of our past as they did here. The nuttiness may be a tad more leisurely these days, but they can still be endearingly unhinged, yet uncontrived, in their stage manner. Suggs appeared in his overcoat and bowler before revealing a fittingly tasteless pink suit.

Madness had correctly decided that if it was nostalgia people wanted, nostalgia they would have, and rarely in recent years can a crowd have been treated to such a quickfire barrage of direct hits. Starting with "One Step Beyond" and ending 80 minutes later with "Night Boat to Cairo", this was what an oldies radio programmer would call solid gold. The group mined a catalogue boasting 15 Top Ten hits inside four years, and countless other gems.

They gave us one glorious three-minute wonder after another, proof that "House of Fun", "Our House", "Embarrassment", "My Girl" and the rest will remain among the most evocative chart records ever made. Roll on next Christmas. This one could run and run.

PAUL SEXTON

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY: First night of previews for Felicity Kendal and Griff Rhys Jones in Peter Hall's production of Feydeau's farce of love, marriage and deceit amongst the 18th-century French bourgeoisie.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Jan 4, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

BUDDY GRECO: One of America's leading jazz/vocal cabaret artists shows off his many talents learnt in 50 years of showbiz; in London for two weeks.
Green Room, Cafe Royal, Piccadilly, W1 (071-437 9090). Tonight-Jan 8, 9pm.

MUSIC THEATRE LONDON: A gloriously theatrical Christmas treat from the masters of small-scale operatic updatings: Nick Broadhurst's irreverent and witty production of Mozart's dark comedy **Cosi Fan Tutte**. The music is arranged and the libretto translated by Tony Britten, Paul Bateman conducts.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight until Jan 1, 7pm. [S]

WREN ORCHESTRA: Howard Blake, creator of the musical version of *The Snowman*, conducts the enchanting children's classic plus his *Nursery Rhyme Overture*. Prokofiev's magnificent *Peter and the Wolf*, where each character is portrayed by a different instrument in the orchestra, concludes the programme.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Today, 3.30pm. [S]

ELSEWHERE

CARDIFF: Jon Gerda on her magical expedition to rescue her friend from the winter realm of the icicle-fingered **Snow Queen**. Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale is brought to life by Mike Kenny, for ages six upwards.
Sherman, Senghennydd Road (0222 230451). Today and Tue, Jan 1 and 3: 2pm; Dec 29, 30, and 31: 2pm and 7pm. Until Jan 8. [S]

MANCHESTER: Ninety-nine years old but still the tops: George Bernard Shaw's **The Importance of Being Earnest** stars Avril Elgar, Samuel West and Marcia Warren in a fine cast. James Maxwell directs.
Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square (061-833 9333). Today and Tue, 7.30pm, Dec 29, 2.30 and 7.30pm; Dec 30, 7.30; Dec 31, 8pm; Jan 1, 4pm and 8pm; Jan 3, 7.30pm. Until Jan 29. [S]

SOUTHAMPTON: Watch pumpkins turn into coaches and mice into horses as Gloria Hunniford and Brian Conley help make a dream come true for **Cinderella**. If the shoe fits...
Mayflower Theatre, Commercial Road (0703 229771). Today - Dec 30, Jan 1-3: 2.30 and 7.30pm. Until Feb 6. [S]

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The London Group (071-638 4141) ... **British Museum:** Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) ... **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) ... **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) ... **Tate:** Writing on the Wall: women artists; Ben Nicholson; Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) ... **Victoria & Albert:** Gates of Mystery: Russian icons; 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
▣ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ASPECTS OF LOVE:** Andrew Lloyd Webber now has six musicals running concurrently as this one returns for a short revival. Not one of the best.
Prince of Wales, Coventry St, WC2 (071-839 5972). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until Jan 15

☐ **THE BFG:** Roald Dahl's Big Friendly Giant makes his seasonally festive call on London.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon 7pm; Tue-Fri, 2pm and 7pm; Sat 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm.

☐ **FOREVER PLAID:** Genial and wittily performed homage to the four-part harmony groups of the 1950s.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Today and Tue, 6pm and 8.30pm; Wed and Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm (Fri half-price), 8.30pm.

▣ **MACBETH:** Derek Jacobi and Cheryl Campbell play the hell-hound and his dam in Adrian Noble's new production
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Today-Thurs, 7.15pm; mat Thurs, 2pm. [S]

▣ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE:** French and Saunders in wretchedly lightweight US play about lesbian fantasies.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 6pm and 8.45pm

▣ **MOONLIGHT:** Ian Holm stars as a sour civil servant, raging against his approaching death.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm. Closes Jan 1.

▣ **MR AND MRS NOBODY:** Patricia Routledge and Clive Swift keep up appearances in Keith Waterhouse's adaptation of *Diary of a Nobody* and his own *Diary of Mrs Pooter*.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Today and Tue, 3.30 and 7.45pm; Dec 29, 30, 31: 7.45pm; Jan 1, 2.30 and 7.45pm. Until Jan 15. [S]

▣ **OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university. Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Harold Pinter's production of David Mamet's play.
Duke of York's, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. [S]

▣ **ONE MAN:** Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's Telltale Heart, Actor, and *Dog*, his hilarious, chilling view of life as seen by a lager lout's rottweiler.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

PETER PAN: Black Light Theatre of Prague premiere their latest show using live actors, puppets and flying objects. Barrie's fairytale sounds a natural subject.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). Today to Jan 2, Jan 6, 8, 3pm and 7pm; Jan 4, 5 and 7, 7pm. Until Jan 8. [S]

☐ **PIAF:** Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvelous.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 3pm.

☐ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Extra mat Dec 30, 3pm; no perf Dec 31. [S]

☐ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes and David Essex in Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Dec 28, 3pm and 7.45pm. [S]

■ **SWEENEY TODD:** Declan Donnellan's superb staging of Sondheim's subtle, savage musical. Starring Alun Armstrong and Julia McKenzie.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today and Tue, 7.30pm; mat Tue, 2pm. [S]

▣ **THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA:** The sparkle has faded from David Thacker's touring production, in London until Jan 15.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Extra mat Dec 30, 3pm. No perf Dec 31.

LONG RUNNERS

■ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ■ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) ... ■ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... ▣ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ▣ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 8845) ... ☐ **Hot Stuff:** Cambridge (071-494 5040) ... ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... ▣ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) ... ☐ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119)

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

Performance and opening times may vary during the Christmas period so please check with box-offices beforehand.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

DESPERATE REMEDIES (15): Artless, exhausting high camp from New Zealand: a period tale of love and deceit. Stewart Main and Peter Wells direct.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **Warner** (071-439 0791)

KING OF THE HILL (12): Astute and touching memoir of a Depression childhood, directed by Steven Soderbergh from A.E. Hotchner's book. With Jesse Bradford and Jeroen Krabbé.
Gate [S] (071-727 4043) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279)

LATE SPRING: Moving portrait of a father and his dutiful daughter, from the Japanese master Yasujiro Ozu; made in 1949. Part of an Ozu season.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

◆ **A PERFECT WORLD** (15): Kevin Costner's criminal on the run with a kidnapped child, and Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Thoughtful if overstretched drama; Eastwood also directs.
Barbican [S] (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** [S] (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** [S] (071-727 6705) **Warner** [S] (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332).

CURRENT

◆ **ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG): A new baby causes chaos in America's most macabre household. Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston; director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** [S] (071-434 0031) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

◆ **ALADDIN** (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun.
Barbican [S] (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

AMERICAN HEART (15): Father and son hit the Seattle streets. Well-meaning social drama from director Martin Bell; with Jeff Bridges and Edward Furlong.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353)

◆ **DAVE** (15): The US President's lookalike takes over. Ivan Reitman's beguiling comic fantasy, with Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** [S] (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

◆ **DEMOLITION MAN** (15): Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in 21st century L.A. Marco Brambilla's satirical if overblown action romp.
MGMs: Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** [S] (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332) **Warner** [S] (071-437 4343)

THE HAWK (15): Is Helen Mirren's husband Lancashire's serial killer? Modest but powerful domestic thriller, from Peter Ransley's novel. David Hayman directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527)

◆ **THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE** (12): Scarred recluse tutors a young outcast. Queasy drama with something to say from director-star Mel Gibson.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Trocadero** [S] (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** [S] (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

THE METEOR MAN (PG): Timid Washington teacher turns superhero and cleans up the community. Bland, dishevelled, well-meaning fantasy from writer-director-star Robert Townsend.
Electric [S] (071-792 2020)

◆ **THE PIANO** (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel.
Lumiere (071-836 0691) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** [S] (071-435 3366) **Warner** [S] (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

◆ **ROBIN HOOD: MEN IN TIGHTS** (PG): Unfunny, outdated Sherwood Forest spoof from Mel Brooks, with Cary Elwes, Roger Rees, Richard Lewis.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** [S] (071-792 3332)

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Ton't 7.00 MILLENNIUM APPROACHES Tony Kushner. Tomor 7.00 PERESTROIKA Tony Kushner

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THE TEMPEST
Ton't, Tomor 7.30
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The man who lived his life in reverse

James Woodall enjoys a monumental biography of an eccentric Parisian who was obsessed with numbers

GEORGES PEREC
A Life in Words
By David Bellos
Harvill, £35



Perec: idiosyncratic

Georges Perec died in 1982 aged 46. Some might say that it is too soon to have a biography of a relatively unknown French novelist. As with Joyce's *Ulysses*, Perec's book, *Life: A User's Manual* is one of those epic slabs of modern literature that many have heard of but few have read. David Bellos, who translated it, has now written a biography coextensive with that enormous novel, and even appears to want to outclass its author.

The novel is 580 pages long, including the index; this life is 800 pages long, including no less than *three* indexes. One of them contains, under "Paris", a list of 74 street names — which has to be a first for any kind of index.

Bellos has inherited Perec's obsession for numerical detail, and much else besides: a love of lists, topographic exactitude, a shameless zest for peppering his text with diagrams. In an entertainingly post-modern gesture, we even have lists, at the end of each chapter, of the names and sources from which Bellos has culled his material. It is a bit like being offered a play and its rehearsals together.

Couldn't *A User's Manual* have kicked around for a few more years, giving us a chance to read and inwardly digest it before having to address so monumental a slab of biography?

That is perhaps to miss the point. In an age without heaven, biography — literary biography in particular — has become funeral rite, sepulchre and resurrection rolled into one. A life thus immortalised, moreover, is an easy way to sidestep the works. Who is *really* going to read *La Disparition* (The Disappearance), Perec's novel written without using the letter "e"? We can read all *about* it here. If Bellos is guilty of anything, it is of positively encouraging us to become literary voyeurs rather than readers.

Beyond that, it is hard to fault him. A translator is not necessarily a good writer let alone biographer. Bellos is both; he paints an intimate, sympathetic and not uncritical portrait of a man who lived his life in reverse.

Orphaned during the war — his father was killed defending France in 1940, his mother disappeared in Auschwitz — Perec was brought up, haphazardly, by an aunt and uncle in Paris. Everything about his childhood — dispossession, disease, rootlessness — resembled the experiences of many three times his age in that terrible period.

He started to enjoy life in the late Fifties — in Paris, an era of jazz, Marxism, the *nouveau roman*. Perec became his own idiosyncratic self; Camus was of "no importance". New Novelist supreme Alain Robbe-Grillet was "not a writer but a laboratory technician", he averred.

He came of literary age in the 1960s, and started to travel. Not until 1975 did he meet Catherine Binet, the women with whom he might have shared a long life had lung cancer not killed him seven years later. By then Perec's fame rested squarely on *Life: A User's Manual*.

After childhood, it was not an eventful life — all the more surprising, then, that Bellos could have made such a fine book out of it. More time is needed to absorb Perec's real achievement in words; Bellos's superbly crafted memorial testifies to the value of reading most of them.



These indigobirds are among 1,400 birds on the list of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in which it is forbidden to trade, *writes Simon Barnes*. But would most people know a Moluccan from, say, a lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo? Could the average customs man tell the difference? Now you can check them all out in *The Birds Of CITES And How To Recognize Them* by Johannes Erritzoe, the Lutterworth Press (Cambridge), £34

She got on her bike

Robin Lodge

THE AMBER TRAIL
By Natascha Scott-Stokes
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £17.99

When Natascha Scott-Stokes got on her bike in the Baltic city of Gdansk in June 1992 and wobbled off in the general direction of Greece, the idea was to follow an ancient trade route, which brought amber to Athens and Rome. As it turned out, she found no evidence that amber did actually go that way, but it was a good excuse for a fascinating journey through the new democracies of Eastern Europe.

The idea was excellent. The bicycle-saddle viewpoint was sure to be far more informative than the sanitised observations of the practised motorway cruiser. I looked forward to sharing Natascha's gruelling slog through the potholes of the former communist empire.

But what do we get? Well, you can write off Poland, for a start. Greedy people, too many drunks, nasty food, ugly factories and too flat. Krakow? The architecture is an anti-climax and a "painful mix" of styles. Other towns? "One medieval town square looked much like another . . . I soon gave up taking out my camera." Indeed she did. The only evidence that she took a camera along with her is the cover picture of a laden bicycle against a red-brick wall.

Czechoslovakia was a bit better, although the hills made it terrible for cycling. But the people were more jolly and apparently liked getting up in national costume and doing folk dances. Funnily enough, the old Communists were rather keen on that sort of thing, but Scott-Stokes seemed to think it was all part of throwing off the yoke. Another part was that Czech restaurants cheat you on the bill. Still, she thought Prague was pretty, and she liked Bratislava too. And she noticed that Czechs and Slovaks didn't seem to like each other much.

So on to Hungary. I was worried for Natascha, because Hungary, like most of Poland, is pretty flat. But at least they don't cheat with the restaurant bills. Even so, it was a generally depressing place and Budapest itself, we are told, is "big, black and heavy to digest".

Pedal on to Serbia, nation at war. And we are immediately treated to a lengthy diatribe against journalists for failing to give a balanced account of the war in Yugoslavia. Scott-Stokes, after only a few days on the Serbian roads, was able to set the record straight, even if she was prevented by the police from actually visiting a war zone. But she did talk to some writers at the PEN club in Belgrade.

A few miles south of Belgrade and she seemed to be getting bored with the whole idea. Keen as she was to reveal the truth about Serbia, she managed to miss Kosovo altogether by taking a train to Skopje. Five-and-a-half pages were enough to cover Macedonia, and she was across the border in Greece, enjoying a proper lavatory and dipping her feet in the Aegean.

But the book does have its good points. Scott-Stokes has a nice sense of honesty. Her naivete, poor planning, ineptitude on the bicycle and limited budget are all laid before us. She also confesses to taking trains when the hills are too steep and, most importantly, to the fact that she did not do the trip alone, but with her husband. But overall, the book is a a wasted opportunity.

Tales to make the flesh creep

Peter Millar

NIGHTMARES AND DREAMSCAPES
By Stephen King
Hodder & Stoughton, £16.99

There is something satisfying about the idea of Stephen King being haunted. Any man who has put as much effort as he has into robbing millions of their sleep deserves a few insomniac hours himself.

But what King appears particularly to dread is the old familiar artist's nightmare: losing his muse. In a lengthy self-justifying introduction to this, his latest collection of short stories, there is a glimpse of an angry middle-aged man peeping out from behind billion-dollar ramparts to snipe at critics who accuse him of over-writing and the ability to make a million by publishing his laundry list. But, as he astutely notes, those who accuse him of that are those who think it is all he has been doing for the last two decades.

These stories are presented, therefore, as a defence against allegations that economy is the element most critically lacking from King's prose style. Each one, he claims is a little exercise in belief from a man who thinks reality is to the imagination "what ash stakes are to vampires".

King has been cursed by comparisons. He was quickly labelled the Edgar Allan Poe of his generation for the simple fact that, compared to many others who mine the same seam, he can actually write. Merely by tickling the keys on his word processor, King can make flesh creep half a world away. But where he differs from so many chill-merchants is that his horror is rarely gratuitous and often informed with a wry humour that is unmistakably contemporary rather than Gothic.

As in the tale of the couple who, in classic horror-story fashion, stray off the main road and end up in the familiar small-town version of hell, only a hell inhabited by Janis Joplin, Roy Orbison and Duane Allman in which Elvis Presley is the mayor and every evening is a rock concert that *lasts* forever. My other favourite is "The Ten O'Clock People", a bizarre fusion of the idea behind *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and an attack on America's politically correct anti-smoking fascism.



King: reality is to the imagination as ash stakes to a vampire

King enjoys displaying his competence in other people's styles also. This collection includes a spoof of Conan Doyle, in which Watson solves a mystery that is every bit as absurd as some of the originals. But better is "Umney's Last Case", a parody of the Raymond Chandler school of drop-dead one-liners. Here's King's private dick's description of an "L.A-perfect" morning:

"The exhaust of the vehicles parked on Sunset smelled faintly of oleander, the oleander was lightly perfumed with exhaust, and the sky overhead was as clear as a hardshell Baptist's conscience." But this story turns out to have a twist that is more King than Chandler as Umney's perfect world suddenly starts to come apart, literally, at the seams.

There is also Hitchcock here in "Dolan's Cadillac", the sinister story, almost entirely devoid of the supernatural, of a man single-mindedly bent on revenge. It would make a great movie. It probably will.

The only jarring note is "Head Down", a would-be piece of Tom Wolfe's New Journalism, as applied to little league baseball. It was commissioned by *The New Yorker* and is apparently included here to prove that he really can write. Until I read it, I had no doubts. Stick to the mystery and imagination, Steve.

PAPERBACKS

SHOWMAN: THE LIFE OF DAVID O. SELZNICK
By David Thomson
Abacus, £9.99

HOLLYWOOD'S most charismatic and gifted producer was hardly a self-made man. His father preceded him in the mushrooming film business, making and losing a fortune in less than a decade, practising throughout the cheerful nepotism that made his third and favourite son secretary of the Selznick Pictures Corporation while still in his teens. The eventual crash was not as catastrophic as either father or son liked to pretend. Marriage to the daughter of Louis B. Mayer cemented David's pre-eminence, enabling him to push through *King Kong* and *Gone With the Wind*. Thomson portrays a remarkable family with sympathetic frankness, and offers an unparalleled picture of the inner workings of Hollywood.

SILENT DUCHESS
By Dacia Maraini
Flamingo, £5.99

GIFTED Sicilian noblewoman Marianna Ucria, mysteriously deaf-mute from early childhood and married off at 13 to her graceless uncle, moves from one mid-18th century ducal household to another to become a childbearing machine for the dynasty, her intelligence hidden behind a wall of silence. A lifetime later, inspired by friendships and her reading of philosophy, she simply liberates herself, choosing independence over late-flowering sexual happiness. A sumptuous novel, and a subversive slice of European history.

THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE
By Elizabeth Jenkins
Virago, £5.99

IN HER best-known novel, first published in the 1950s, Jenkins paints a subtle portrait of a sensitive woman frozen into inaction by feelings of inadequacy. Imogen Gresham lives in the shadow of her husband Evelyn, a distinguished KC whom she loves and admires, but to whom she cannot really respond sexually. She sees her marriage disintegrate as Evelyn is lured away by their country neighbour, the rich, bluff and tweedy Blanche Silcox. Poetic, almost dreamlike descriptions of the house and garden echo Imogen's own growing sense of unreality. A delicately observant novel that leaves a chill behind.

● *Contributors: Brian Morton, Alison Burns, Hazel Leslie*

American psyche

George Trefgarne

LIFE OF HENRY DAVID THOREAU
By Henry S. Salt
Centaur, £19.95

IN JULY 1845 Henry Thoreau built by hand a house near a pond in Massachusetts. He wished "to live deliberately" and *Walden* (1854), his record of his time there, has since become one of the classics of American literature. Its philosophy runs deep into the American psyche. Figures as diverse as Robert Frost, Frank Lloyd Wright and John F. Kennedy have all been inspired by Thoreau's ideas of self-reliance and contemplation. Unfortunately, he enjoyed little succes in his own lifetime.

Henry S. Salt initially had problems similar to Thoreau's. His first edition of the *Life of Henry David Thoreau* (1890), had sold only eight copies by 1891. The second edition (1896) still had 2,000 unsold in 1908 and he could never find a publisher for this far more comprehensive third edition. Describing himself as a "compendium of cranks", Salt is well placed to respond to his eccentric subject.

Thoreau, who has been labelled everything from an anarchist to a fascist, is not pigeon-holed. Instead, Salt chooses to emphasise Thoreau as a non-conformist.

For the newcomer to Thoreau, Salt provides a readable and sensitive introduction. Indeed, unlike some thinkers, the story of Thoreau's life genuinely facilitates the study of his ideas, as he practised what he preached. Salt recounts how, opposing the Mexican War and slavery, Thoreau refused to pay his poll tax and spent a night in prison in 1845.

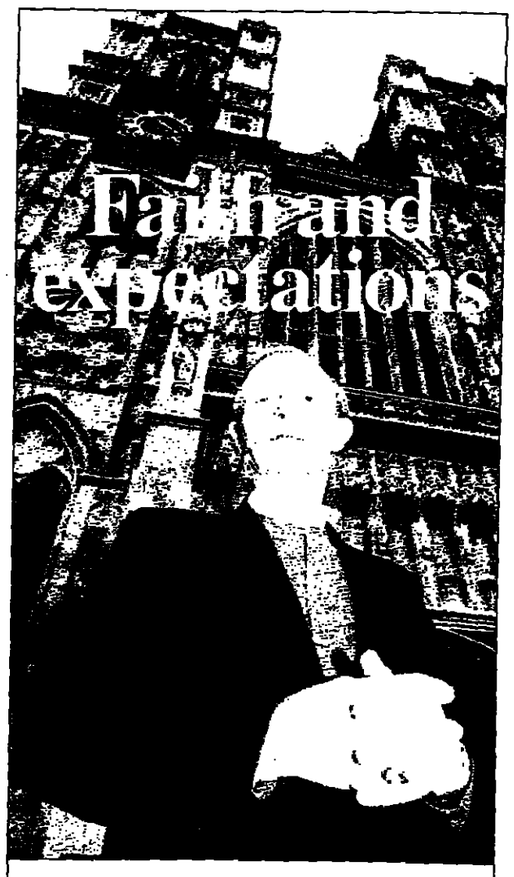
It is good to see the definitive version of Salt's work finally published. Perhaps what is most refreshing though, is that Salt's *Life* may in some small way raise Thoreau's profile on this side of the Atlantic.

THIS WEEK'S OFFERS

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

LONDON
Shaftesbury Theatre
Carousel
THE offer of a combined theatre ticket and lunch or afternoon tea was so popular that we have managed to extend it to all Wednesday matinees in January (January 12, 19 & 26). Tickets are £30 with lunch or £22.50 with tea (the normal price of a ticket only is £30). Tel Freephone 0800 328588
HULL
Spring Street Theatre
Up'n' Under II — The Story Continues!
Dec 29-31, 3.45pm and 7.45pm
HULL Truck Theatre Company's Christmas show is John Godber's hilarious sequel to *Up 'n' Under*, the perfect antidote to too much Christmas pudding. Two £6.45 tickets for the price of one. Tel 0482 23638
SCARBOROUGH
Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round
The End of the Food Chain
Dec 30, 7.30pm
TWO £4 tickets for the price of one to see this a hilarious comedy by Tiro Firth, set in a grocer's distribution depot. Tel 0723 370541
MANCHESTER
Royal Exchange Theatre
The Importance of Being Earnest
Jan 3, 7.30pm
OSCAR Wilde's sparkling comic classic is the perfect entertainment for the festive season. Club members who buy a £12 ticket will get a copy of the *Royal Exchange Theatre Company: An Illustrated Record* (normally £5.95) and a free glass of wine. Tel 061-833 9833
LEICESTER
Haymarket Theatre
The Thirst
Dec 31, Jan 1, 7-8, 14-15, 2.45pm (Jan 8 & 15, 3pm)
TICKETS £5 (normally £9)

for this a psychological thriller-writer and director by Gavin Robertson, creator of *Thunderbirds FAB*. Tel 0638 559797
BASINGSTOKE
Haymarket Theatre
Veronica's Room
Jan 7-8, 14-15, 7.45pm
THIS absorbing and terrifying thriller is written by by Ira Levin, author of *Rosemary's Baby*. Tickets £12 (normally £14), include a complimentary programme. Tel 0256 466566
SOUTHAMPTON
Nuffield Theatre
The Jungle Book
Jan 4-13
THE Nuffield's production of Kipling's adventures of Mowgli, the young boy raised by a family of wolves. Save £2.00, £7.95 and £9.95 tickets, excluding Friday and Saturday. Tel 0703 671771
TO book for any of this week's special offers telephone the listed number during normal office hours. The cost of the ticket you receive is the special price negotiated on members' behalf by the Theatre Club. To join the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50 made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 2164, Colchester, CO1 1GN or telephone 0206 41662 during office hours using your credit card. Apply before December 31 and you will receive 50 free Air Miles. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack.



The Bishop of Guildford sets out a vision for teachers and Government for the new year.
In *The TES*.

OUT THIS FRIDAY

TES
THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT
80P THROUGH NEWSAGENTS EVERY FRIDAY

Sentencing drink-drive killers

Regina v Shepherd (Attorney General's Reference (No 14 of 1993))
Regina v Wernet (Attorney General's Reference (No 24 of 1993))

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Popplewell and Mr Justice Scott-Baker

[Judgment December 17]

Guidance on sentencing for the new offence of careless driving causing death having consumed alcohol exceeding the prescribed limit was given by the Court of Appeal in a reserved judgment on the first two cases to come before the court by way of references under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 by the Attorney General who submitted that the sentences passed by the judges at the crown court were unduly lenient.

Peter James Shepherd, aged 29, of Batley Road, Enfield, Middlesex, had pleaded guilty at Norwich Crown Court before Judge Binns to two counts of causing the deaths of Tracey Fairchild and her daughetr aged 10 months, for each of which he was fined £250 and he was disqualified for two years and ordered to pay £100 costs.

Robert Stewart Wernet, aged 26, of Paradise Street, St Ebbes, Oxford, had pleaded guilty at Oxford Crown Court before Judge Harris, QC, to causing the death of John McCullum, for which he was sentenced later at that court by Judge May to nine months imprisonment and disqualified for two years. His plea of not guilty to causing death by dangerous driving had been accepted by the court.

Section 3A of the Road Traffic Act 1988, inserted by section 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1991, provides: "If a person causes the death of another person by driving a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road ... without due care and attention ... and ... (b) he has consumed so much alcohol that the proportion of it in his ... blood ... at that time exceeds the prescribed limit ... he is guilty of an offence."

As provided by Schedule 2 to the 1988 Act, as amended by Schedule 2 to the 1991 Act, the penalty for the offence, which was triable only on indictment, was five years or a fine or both.

Mr John Nutting for the Attorney General in both cases; Mr Roger D. Harrison for Shepherd; Mr Anthony McGeorge for Wernet.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that section 3A was an entirely new offence, which came into existence on July 1, 1992. However, within a year, by section 67 of the Criminal Justice Act 1992 the maximum sentence for causing death by dangerous driving and the new offence was increased from five years to 10.

The change came into effect on August 16, 1993. In their Lordships' judgment that increase was not retrospective so that neither of the cases before them was affected by it.

The reforms showed an intent by Parliament to strengthen the criminal law to reduce death on the roads by increasing the punishment available to the courts and by specifically targeting those who caused death while driving with excess alcohol.

The five-year maximum sentence for causing death by dangerous driving had been doubled. In tandem with that, causing death by the less serious form of culpable driving, characterised as "careless" carried the same maximum sentence if coupled with driving while unfit through drink or over the alcohol limit.

Those offences did not require proof of a causal connection between the drink and the death. Thus, under section 3A, whoever drove with excess alcohol did so at his or her peril and, even if the driving was merely careless but death resulted the court's powers to punish were the same as for causing death by dangerous driving.

Guidelines for sentencing in respect of the pre-1991 offence of causing death by reckless driving was laid down in *R v Boswell* ([1984] 1 WLR 1047) at a time when the maximum sentence for that offence was five years.

For offences committed before the sentence was increased to 10 years their Lordship considered that the criteria laid down in *Boswell* applied equally to the new offence of causing death by careless driving. In that case, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, listed first among aggravating features consumption of alcohol or drugs. He said (at p1052G) that where an aggravating feature was present a custodial sentence was generally necessary.

The offence under section 3A, although requiring proof of only careless rather than dangerous driving, also had built into it the very aggravating feature which was the first in the *Boswell* list.

Thus, where a driver was over the limit and killed someone as a result of his careless driving, a prison sentence would ordinarily be appropriate. The length of the sentence would, of course, depend on the aggravating and mitigating circumstances in the particular case, but especially on the extent of the carelessness and the amount the offender was over the limit.

In an exceptional case, if the alcohol level at the time of the offence was just over the borderline, the carelessness was momentary and there was strong mitigation, a non-custodial sentence might be possible.

But in other cases, a prison sentence was required to deter other persons from drinking and driving and to reflect the public abhorrence of deaths caused by excess alcohol. In regard to that final element, as had been said before in *Boswell* and *R v Pettipher (Note 1989)* ([1991] RTR 186A): "... more than one person was killed. It is rather illogical in some ways, it might be thought, that a given piece of driving which causes three deaths should be punished more heavily than the identical piece of driving causing one death, or indeed causing no death at all, given that no one suggests this appellant was deliberately driving so as to kill people.

"The fact is that in the public estimation it is a factor which people in general do take into account. People do regard killing three as more criminal than killing one. That is a fact of life which this court recognises."

His Lordship said that, having said that, their Lordships wished to stress that human life could not be restored nor could its loss be measured by the length of a prison sentence.

Their Lordships recognised that no term of months or years imposed on the offender could reconcile the family of a deceased victim to their loss, nor would it cure their anguish.

Since Parliament had thought it right and necessary not merely to increase but to double the maximum sentences for offences under sections 1 and 3A of the 1988 Act, the guidelines in *Boswell* needed to be reconsidered.

Clearly the statements of principle in that case and the examples of aggravating and mitigating circumstances still stood. However, it was stated (at p1052G) that "Drivers who for example indulge in racing on the highway and/or driving with reckless disregard for the safety of others after taking alcohol, should understand that in bad cases they will lose their liberty for two years or more."

In their Lordships' judgment, the phrase "two years or more" should now read "upwards of five years" and in the very worst cases, if contested, sentences would be in the higher range of those now permitted by Parliament.

On application of the principles set out his Lordship reviewed the facts of the individual cases and stated that the sentence on Shepherd would be three months imprisonment concurrent on each count and on Wernet 18 months imprisonment with the disqualification increased from two years to five.

Solicitors: CPS, Headquarters; Taylor Vinters, Cambridge; Simms & Co, Oxford.

'Prostitution' judicially defined for first time

Regina v McFarlane

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Popplewell and Mr Justice Scott Baker

[Judgment December 20]

For the first time the meaning of "prostitution" was decided judicially when the Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by a man convicted of living on the earnings of prostitution and determined that, in considering the mischief of harassment and nuisance to members of the public on the streets, the distinction between "a clipper" and "a hooker" was immaterial.

The unsuccessful appeal was brought by Eric McFarlane, aged 39, from his conviction at Knightsbridge Crown Court, before Judge Hordern, QC and a jury, on a count charging living wholly or in part on the earnings of the prostitution of a woman, contrary to section 30 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956. He was sentenced to four months imprisonment.

Section 30 provides: "It is an offence for a man to live wholly or in part on the earnings of prostitution."

Mr R. E. Carne, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning, QC and Mr Christopher Annis, neither of whom appeared below, for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had lived together as man and wife with Miss Joseph who, on the judge's ruling was a prostitute.

She maintained that she was not a prostitute but a "clipper", one who offered sexual services for reward and pocketed the reward in advance, never intending to provide the services.

The judge in directing the jury had said that there were prostitutes that were honest and prostitutes that were dishonest, and Miss Joseph was a dishonest prostitute.

The point of law in the appeal was the meaning of prostitution which, surprisingly, had not been the subject of judicial decision with any finality before this.

The issue on the appeal was whether, as a matter of law, the judge was correct to rule and direct the jury that a woman who offered herself sexual services and took the money and failed to provide the services was engaged in prostitution within section 30 of the 1956 Act.

Mr Carne submitted that, to be a prostitute a woman had not only to offer sexual services but had also to provide them or be prepared to do so.

Mr Carter-Manning submitted that the essence of the offence was the offer of sexual services in return for reward.

The words "prostitute" and "prostitution" were not defined in any statute. Their Lordships' attention had been drawn to dictionary definitions and *R v De Munck* ([1918] 1 KB 635); *R v Webb* ([1964] 1 QB 23) and *R v Morris-Lowe* ([1985] 1 WLR 29).

In their Lordships' judgment, both the dictionary definitions and the cases showed that the crucial feature in defining prostitution was the making of an offer of sexual services for reward.

Mr Carne submitted that the true offence was not living on immoral earnings but that Miss Joseph was not acting by way of prostitution, she was acting dishonestly and could have been proceeded against for obtaining money by false pretences.

It might be that the appellant could have been proceeded against for conspiring with her to do so, or aiding and abetting her. Living on immoral earnings had not been made out.

He submitted also that the mischief against which section 30 was aimed was the exploitation of women. Here the appellant was not exploiting Miss Joseph sexually, only dishonestly.

However, if his arguments were right, the mischief at which that and other statutes requiring proof of prostitution would be defeated. If it were a defence that the woman was acting as a clipper and not as a hooker, proof of such offences would be extremely difficult.

It would be necessary to prove not merely an offer of sexual services in a public place but that services were actually provided or, at the time of the offence, were intended to be provided.

The mischief being simply the harassment and nuisance to members of the public on the streets, the distinction between a clipper and a hooker was immaterial.

Their Lordships had no doubt that the ruling of the trial judge was both robust and correct, to adopt a phrase used by Mr Carter-Manning.

For a man to live on the earnings of a woman who habitually offered sexual services, took the money and then reneged on the offer, if she did, was, in their Lordships' view, to live off the earnings of prostitution, or, as it used to be termed, immoral earnings.

Indeed, most people would regard such earnings as doubly immoral.

The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: CPS, London.

Balancing protection of children and public interest

In re H (Minors) (Public Interest: Protection of Identity)

Before Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Ward

[Judgment December 21]

Although the fact that the court, with the support of a local authority, approved that young children remain in the care of a parent who was a transsexual and had undergone a sex change operation was a matter of public interest which the media was entitled to publish, the public interest in the protection of the children's identity was greater.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of the respondent to the extent of varying the terms of the injunction of Judge Crowther, QC, which prevented the respondent taking or permitting any act likely to expose the children of the family to any form of publicity arising from the respondent's custody of them and/or the respondent's transsexuality and sex change operation until the date when the youngest child attained majority.

Mr Wyn Williams, QC and Miss Jennet Trehaine for the respondent; Miss Elizabeth Szwed for the petitioner.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL, giving the judgment of the court, said that the court accepted that the injunction in its present form was obscure, too widely drawn and could not stand in its present form. The judge had not been given the assistance he would have derived from *In re C (a Minor) (Wardship: Medical Treatment) (No 2)* ([1990] Fam 39) and *In re M and N (Minors) (Wardship: Publication of Information)* ([1990] Fam 211).

The court also found ample evidence that serious harm to the children from publicity of the present case was established. The important question was whether the respondent's freedom to publish a book on her experiences and the media's freedom to publish matters of public interest outweighed the risk of harm to the children.

It was now well established by *In re M and N* and *In re W (a Minor) (Wardship: Restrictions on Publication)* ([1992] 1 WLR 100) that in such a situation the welfare of the children was not the paramount consideration, and there was no reason to depart from that view.

The facts of the case did disclose a matter of public interest which the media was entitled to publish and about which the public might legitimately debate and the court would not prevent the respondent amplifying the facts as set out in the judgment and adding comment to them.

When public interest turned to public curiosity as to the identity of the parties, and that became the focus of attention, then the public interest in the protection of the children became the greater public interest and the interest of the children became the more important factor.

The access to and reporting of family proceedings was currently the subject of a review and a consultation paper was issued by the Lord Chancellor's Department in August 1993. It had to be emphasised that the balance between the competing and conflicting matters of public interest needed always to be held in delicate balance.

Although no challenge had been made that the county court had jurisdiction to make such an order, the question of an injunction in such a case was more a matter for the exercise of the High Court's inherent jurisdiction.

The President of the Family Division, Sir Stephen Brown, had authorised the court to say that in future where an injunction was sought, the effect of which was to impose a restraint on the freedom of the Press and the media generally, such matter should be transferred to the High Court and the Official Solicitor should be invited, at his discretion, to represent the child concerned.

The giving of any information by the respondent to the media and their soliciting information had to be strictly controlled so that the less the children knew about it the better. Accordingly the respondent could not pursue any dealings with the media from the property at which she and the children lived or elsewhere in their presence. The communications had to respect the children's privacy.

Solicitors: Fonseca & Co, Ebbw Vale; Fraser Brown, Nottingham.

Court has no power to extend time

Middleton v Middleton

The court had no power to grant an extension of the 21-day time limit laid down in regulation 14.2 of the Civil Legal Aid (General) Regulations (SI 1989 No 339) in which a successful unassisted party to had file an affidavit of costs and resources in order to make an application for costs out of the legal aid fund.

The power to make extensions was vested only in the area director pursuant to regulation 7.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Sir Tasker Watkins) so held on December 14 in allowing an appeal brought by the Legal Aid Board from the decision of Mr Justice Thorpe on May 25, 1993 that the court had power to extend the time limit on appeal from District Judge Bird on January 22, 1993.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that it was neither satisfactory nor appropriate that the power to make extensions lay not in the court but only in the area director.

His Lordship hoped that the Lord Chancellor might reconsider that aspect of the regulations.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Calculating driving and rest times

Charlton and Others

Case C-116/92

Before M. Diez de Velasco, acting as President of the Sixth Chamber, and Judges F. A. Schockweiler, M. Zuleeg, P. J. G. Kapteyn and J. L. Murray

Advocate General W. Van Gerven

(Opinion September 15)

[Judgment December 15]

Where a driver, to whom the regulation on social legislation relating to road transport applied, had taken 45 minutes break either as a single break or as several breaks of at least 45 minutes during or at the end of a 4½ hour period, the calculation of driving and rest times was to begin afresh without taking account of the driving time and breaks the driver had previously completed.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in replying to questions submitted to it by Manchester Crown Court for a preliminary ruling pursuant to article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

Manchester Crown Court was hearing appeals against convictions by the Heywood Magistrates' Court. The latter had convicted Mr Charlton, Mr Huyton and Mr Wilson for various infringements of articles 6(1), 7(1) and (2) and 8(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3820/85 of December 20, 1985 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport (OJ 1985 L370, p1) relating to drivers' hours and breaks.

Computation of driving period

According to the United Kingdom, the central issue underlying the national court's questions was how the 4½-hour period referred to in article 7(1) of the regulation was to be interpreted and what the relationship was between that period and the daily driving period referred to in article 6(1) of the regulation.

Article 7(1), whose interpretation was requested by the national court, provided: "After four-and-a-half hours' driving, the driver shall observe a break of at least 45 minutes, unless he begins a rest period." Article 7(2) provided that that break might be replaced "by breaks of at least 15 minutes each distributed over the driving period or immediately after this period".

The accused in the main proceedings, pointing to the ambiguous nature of those provisions, suggested that the Court should adopt the least restrictive interpretation.

Where a provision was insufficiently clear and explicit, its scope was to be determined by examining its objectives and the legal context in which it was to be situated.

The fourteenth recital in the preamble to the regulation showed that the limits set on driving times were intended to serve the interests of road safety. That was confirmed by article 12 of the regulation, which allowed a driver to depart from the provisions of the regulation, including article 7, in order to enable him to reach a suitable stopping place, provided that road safety was not thereby jeopardised.

It followed that article 7(1) and (2) of Regulation No 3820/85 could not be interpreted as authorising drivers to drive continuously for a period of more than 4½ hours.

It was to be noted further that, in accordance with the first recital in the preamble, the regulation made more flexible the provisions concerning the weekly and daily limits on driving periods and the rest periods.

Accordingly, it lengthened the driving periods provided for by articles 6(1) and 7(1) but at the same time lengthened the break provided for by article 7(1) and (2).

In that context, any stricter limit on driving time had to be seen as an exception to the general objective pursued by the regulation of making the provisions more flexible and had therefore to be interpreted narrowly.

The interpretation advocated by the UK was contrary to the objective, set out in the first recital of the preamble to the regulation, of making the provisions of Regulation No 543/69 more flexible. The calculation which it proposed to determine the breaks would end only on the expiry of the daily driving period or when the driver had taken a break of at least 45 minutes. That would lead in fact to the same driving period being counted twice where a driver divided the compulsory break.

Moreover, it was not consistent with the actual wording of article 7(2), which provided expressly that the 45-minute break which had to be taken after 4½ hours' driving under paragraph 1 might be replaced by breaks of at least 15 minutes each distributed over the driving period or immediately after that period.

When driving began

As regards the question as to the moment when the driving period began, it was to be noted that, according to the fifth recital in the preamble to Regulation No 3820/85, one of the objectives pursued by that regulation was to improve control of drivers' work.

The system to guarantee the effectiveness of such control was set up by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3821/85 of December 20, 1985 on recording equipment in road transport (OJ 1985 L370, p8).

The third recital in the preamble to that regulation stated that the only effective control of driving time and breaks provided for by article 7(1) and (2) of Regulation No 3820/85 was that achieved by means of the recording equipment provided for by Regulation No 3821/85.

On those grounds the European Court of Justice held:

1 Article 7(1) and (2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3820/85 of December 20, 1985 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport were to be interpreted as prohibiting drivers to which it applied from driving continuously for more than 4½ hours. But where a driver had taken 45 minutes' break either as a single break or as several breaks of at least 15 minutes during or at the end of a 4½-hour period, the calculation provided for by article 7(1) of the regulation was to begin afresh, without taking into account the driving time and breaks previously completed by the driver.

2 The calculation provided for by article 7(1) of Regulation No 3820/85 began at the moment when the driver set in motion the recording equipment provided for by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3821/85 of December 20, 1985 on recording equipment in road transport and began driving.

No VAT payable on surrender of lease

Lubbock Fine & Co v Commissioners of Customs and Excise

Case C-63/92

Before O. Due, President and Judges J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, M Diez de Valasco, D. A. O. Edward, C. N. Kakouris, R. Joliet, F. Grévisse, M. Zuleeg and P. J. G. Kapteyn

Advocate General M. Darmon

(Opinion June 30)

[Judgment December 15]

The relations created by a lease could not be broken up in such a way that member states were allowed to tax a transaction terminating a lease where the grant of that lease was compulsorily exempt.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in replying to questions submitted to it by a London Value Added Tax Tribunal for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

Those questions had been raised in connection with an appeal by a firm of chartered accountants, Lubbock Fine & Co, against an assessment to VAT made by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in respect of the consideration received by Lubbock Fine for the surrender of a lease.

In 1971, Lubbock Fine had taken a lease of premises for 25 years and one quarter. The premises were subsequently sold and, in 1990, Lubbock Fine entered into an agreement with the new landlord under which Lubbock Fine surrendered the residue of the lease and returned the premises to the landlord with effect from June 1, 1990. The latter paid Lubbock Fine £850,000 by way of consideration for the surrender. The commissioners took the view that under the relevant United Kingdom legislation, the Value Added Tax Act 1983, as amended by the Finance Act 1989, VAT was chargeable on that and made an assessment upon Lubbock Fine in the sum of £110,869.56.

Item 1 of Group 1 of Schedule 6 to the 1983 Act, as amended, exempted from VAT "the grant of any interest in or right over land or of any licence to occupy land...".

It followed from that provision, read in conjunction with an explanatory note, that in the United Kingdom the letting or subletting of immovable property and the assignment of a lease of immovable property were in principle, exempt transactions. However, the surrender of a lease to the tenant's immediate landlord was excluded from that exemption.

In support of its appeal to the VAT tribunal, Lubbock Fine contended that the provision excluding surrenders from the scope of the exemption was contrary to article 13B of the Sixth Council Directive of May 17, 1977 (77/388/EEC) on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes, common system of value-added tax: uniform basis of assessment (OJ 1977 L145, p1), the Sixth Directive.

Taking the view that Lubbock Fine's liability to tax in respect of the consideration paid was dependent on the interpretation to be given to article 13B of the Sixth Directive, the VAT Tribunal decided to refer three questions to the European Court for a preliminary ruling.

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held as follows:

Letting of immovable property

The essence of the first question put by the national court was whether the term "letting of immovable property" used in article 13B(b) of the Sixth Directive to define an exempt transaction covered the case where a tenant, for consideration, surrendered his lease and returned the immovable property to his immediate landlord.

Where a given transaction, such as the letting of immovable property, which would be taxed on the basis of the rents paid, fell within the scope of an exemption provided for by the Sixth Directive, a change in the contractual relationship, such as termination of the lease for consideration, had also to be regarded as falling within the scope of that exemption.

The power to tax exempt transactions

The essence of the second question put by the national court was whether article 13B(b), which allowed member states to apply further exclusions to the scope of the exemption for the letting of immovable property, did not authorise them to tax the consideration paid by one party to the other in connection with the surrender of the lease where the rent paid under the lease was exempt from VAT.

Article 13B allowed member states to exclude certain types of letting from the scope of the exemption and hence to subject them to tax. However, it could not be construed as allowing them to tax a transaction terminating a lease where the grant of that lease was compulsorily exempt. The relations created by a lease could not be broken up in that way.

In view of the answers to the first two questions, it was unnecessary to reply to the tribunal's third question.

On those grounds, the European Court ruled:

1 The term "letting of immovable property" used in article 13B(b) of the Sixth Council Directive of May 17, 1977 to define an exempt transaction covered the case where a tenant surrendered his lease and returned the immovable property to his immediate landlord.

2 Article 13B(b) of the Sixth Directive, which allowed member states to apply further exclusions to the scope of the exemption for the letting of immovable property, did not authorise them to tax the consideration paid by one party to the other in connection with the surrender of the lease when the rent paid under the lease was exempt from VAT.

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Dr Arthur Hearnden
General Secretary
Independent Schools Joint Council
Grosvenor Gardens House
35-37 Grosvenor Gardens
London SW1W OBS

BUSINESS NEWS
CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

هكذا من الأصل

Record run continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 13. Dealings end December 31. §Contango day January 4. Settlement day January 10. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
496	345	Abbey Ntl	496	+8	11.8	2.0	19.1
291	179	Allied Irish	286	...	...	3.6	14.6
226	130	Aus New Z	216	-2	...	4.0	...
3190	2712	BankAmerica	3125	+25	...	...	...
295	177	Bk of Ireland	294	+1	...	4.4	20.9
375	125	Bk Leumi UK	375	+25	17.0	3.7	...
240	116	Bank Scotland	224	+2	4.6	2.5	31.1
646	362	Barclays	633	+9	...	2.5	...
30	15	Carlisle	26	...	...	...	...
598	396	Cater Allen	591	...	28.0	5.9	...
170	85	Castles	173	...	...	3.7	22.6
2487	1787	Chase Mann	2309	-15	...	...	...
2600	1343	Citicorp	2456	-18	...	...	...
475	250	Close Bros	495	...	...	2.8	18.0
£155	9275	Commerzbk	£152	...	...	2.6	...
£346	£254	Deutsche Bk	£348	...	...	1.8	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	60	...	...	1.0	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	0.4	...
520	343	Gerrard Nat	450	...	21.5	6.0	12.0
911	493	HSBC	910	+19	20.0	2.7	21.8
919	474	HSBC HK	918	+15	20.0	2.7	22.0
403	243	Hambros	399	+3	14.3	4.5	18.4
428	313	Joseph (L)	418	...	16.7	5.0	...
155	96	King Shaxson	132	...	9.0	8.5	...
599	312	Kleinwort Ben	597	+2	16.7	3.5	20.7
658	402	Lloyds	658	+14	19.1	3.6	18.8
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	95	...	2.8	3.8	13.8
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	524	-2	...	...	...
620	398	Nat West	607	-15	17.4	3.7	36.9
460	270	Provident	454	...	12.4	3.4	19.7
60	39	Rea Bros	59	...	0.5	1.2	62.7
464	307	Ryl Bk Scot	460	+1	...	4.0	...
1360	467	Schroders	1360	...	...	1.1	27.1
1259	576	Stand Chart	1231	+10	20.5	2.1	...
260	145	TSB	256	+1	6.4	3.1	...
190	78	Union Disc	164	...	...	...	...
941	529	Warburg SG	944	...	...	2.6	13.8
8831	4043	Wells Fargo	8600	-31	...	2.3	...
211	121	Westpac	201	...	...	2.5	...
325	186	Wintrust	315	...	9.1	3.7	28.2

BREWERIES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
660	517	Allied-Lyons	605	+3	...	4.0	18.4
647	441	Bass	551	-4	...	4.5	14.9
299	180	Boddington	285	...	7.5	3.3	16.6
450	362	Bulmer (HP)	410	-1	...	3.2	16.3
184	129	Burtonwd Brw	179	...	4.7	3.3	15.0
145	75	Eldridge P 'A'	143	...	...	3.2	...
70	50	Fosters Brwing	61	-1	...	4.3	...
435	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	425	-3	7.5	2.2	18.0
480	373	Grand Met	475	-2	...	3.5	16.2
457	347	Greenalls Grp	456	-1	...	3.4	15.4
575	505	Greene King	552	...	...	2.8	15.3
521	398	Guinness	491	+1	...	3.1	18.3
281	230	Hardy Hansn	239	...	8.5	4.6	...
138	105	Heavitree	135	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
364	255	Highland Dist	355	...	...	2.3	17.7
3138	2538	Holt J	3125	...	42.0	1.7	20.4
80	33	Hoskins Brew	75	...	...	...	54.0
323	250	Invergordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	118	Macallan-Glen	133	...	4.3	4.1	29.9
465	375	Marstn Thmp 'A'	400	...	...	2.8	19.1
235	164	Mansfield	235	+7	...	2.1	16.8
299	231	Merstn Thmp	275	...	...	2.5	15.3
565	288	Matthew Clark	565	...	...	4.0	18.8
300	210	Mrrydwn W	238	+5	7.0	3.7	21.0
580	455	Morland	513	...	...	2.4	17.6
12	6	Paramount	10	...	...	2.1	...
209	145	Regent Inns	209	...	...	2.7	21.2
1283	753	SA Breweries	1283	+57	...	2.1	21.8
554	393	Scot & New	541	...	...	4.0	16.4
225	155	Taunton Cider	172	...	6.2	4.5	13.4
283	213	Vaux Group	275	-1	9.5	4.4	...
357	225	Wetherspoon JD	338	...	...	2.0	26.2
592	435	Whitbread 'A'	585	+2	...	3.8	14.0
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	521	...	12.6	3.0	...
515	475	Young 'A'	485	...	14.7	3.8	20.1

BUILDING, ROADS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
155	73	Abbey	155	...	...	1.6	25.5
25	12	Allbrightmo	18	...	...	0.7	...
150	82	Allen	150	+4	...	4.2	34.0
123	65	Amec	120	+1	3.0	3.1	22.2
12	4	Anglia Sec	9	...	...	...	...
334	150	Ashtead	333	...	...	1.7	35.2
143	101	Atwoods	137	...	...	4.6	...
357	180	BPB Ind	356	+2	...	2.7	42.6
96	57	Baggeridge Brk	96	+2	3.1	4.2	...
31	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	26	...	0.6	2.9	...
108	74	Barcom	86	-1	3.0	4.5	...
56	32	Bardon	47	...	2.0	5.3	23.2
230	94	Barratt Devs	217	...	4.0	2.3	...
484	305	Bellway	484	+2	12.0	3.1	...
47	15	Bellwinch	46	...	...	...	...
528	285	Berkeley Gp	528	+5	...	1.5	28.4
118	45	Bett Bros	118	...	...	2.1	15.2
66	36	Blockleys	65	...	1.0	1.9	71.8
355	189	Blue Circle	355	+7	...	4.0	...
285	200	Boot (Henry)	277	...	6.0	2.7	15.5
106	78	Breedon PLC	94	-1	4.6	6.1	23.1
131	82	Br Dredging	130	...	5.2	5.0	28.9
86	45	Brit Fittings	78	...	1.7	2.8	...
169	99	Bryant	167	+1	...	3.6	33.7
123	53	CALA	123	...	...	2.3	...
354	200	CRH	348	...	...	2.5	18.1
43	18	Cakebread Rby	31	...	...	...	...
41	21	Costain	28	...	...	...	...
156	80	Countryside	156	+4	...	3.4	...
100	38	Crest Nicholson	99	+2	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	103	...	...	1.2	...
7	1	Dumon	4	...	...	...	...
25	15	Edmond Hldgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	...
285	178	Epwin	275	...	7.0	3.2	23.3
59	32	Erith	57	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group	435	...	...	3.0	16.4
8	3	Explaura	4	...	...	...	...
140	97	Freeman Gp	134	...	...	4.7	21.3
50	38	Galliford	41	...	...	4.5	...
87	52	Gibbs & Dandy	87	...	...	2.9	...
923	695	Gleeson (MJ)	913	...	...	1.7	15.9
166	90	Hewden-Stuart	166	+1	...	2.5	28.6
51	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	33.6
403	173	Heywd Wim	403	+3	13.0	4.0	...
122	37	Higgs & Hill	122	+3	2.5	2.6	...
38	26	How Gp	28	...	...	3.0	...
21	15	Howard Hldgs	20	...	0.5	3.1	...
86	39	Ibstock Johnsen	86	+1	1.0	1.5	...
19	12	Jarvis	17	+1	...	...	...
316	196	Laing (J)	305	+1	9.0	3.7	12.2
127	103	-do- 6.4% CV Pf	122	...	...	6.5	...
115	55	Ln Clydeside	115	+4	4.5	4.9	43.3
23	10	Lovell (YJ)	10	...	...	4.8	...
382	240	Manders	381	+6	9.3	3.1	23.3
192	93	Marley	191	-1	4.2	2.7	36.8
131	61	Marshalls	130	...	...	...	...
196	122	Maunders (J)	196	...	...	3.3	18.9
241	96	McAlpine (A)	240	...	6.5	3.4	41.6
55	23	McCarthy & S	55	+2	0.5	1.1	...
549	272	Meyer Int	531	+2	...	2.4	33.2
134	62	Mowlem (J)	134	+4	4.0	3.7	...
165	51	NSM	150	...	...	...	...
53	48	Needler &	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
171	106	Newman Tnks	167	+2	...	5.0	22.3
310	192	Persimmon	310	+1	8.6	3.5	31.6
26	9	Phoenix Timber	9	...	...	...	...
1725	1237	Pochins	1725	...	29.0	2.1	24.3
198	80	Prowting	198	...	3.4	2.1	...
6	1	Quilligotti	1	...	...	...	...
973	595	RMC Gp	969	+2	...	2.6	36.4
117	75	Raine Ind	95	+1	...	3.9	22.5
36	18	Ransom	25	+2	...	...	...
603	402	Redland	599	...	23.0	5.2	34.9
86	64	Rothel	80	...	4.3	6.7	11.8
342	207	Rugby Group	338	...	6.4	2.4	25.9
68	23	Syrill-Rees	58	...	...	0.5	...
163	68	Sharpe & Fisher	162	...	...	3.1	28.2
268	80	Sheffield Insl	268	...	...	2.5	66.8
233	82	Sherill Hldgs	233	+3	...	2.0	...
95	66	Shorco	94	...	...	6.9	21.4
240	196	Sman (J)	238	...	...	4.7	17.2
6	1	Starmin	2	...	...	...	...
180	100	Tarmac	178	-1	5.5	3.9	...
192	131	Tay Homes	192	...	...	2.8	23.7
142	63	Taylor Woodrw	138	+3	1.0	0.9	...
633	433	Tilbury Dougls	620	+1	33.0	6.7	20.2
39	19	Torex Hire	36	...	...	1.4	...
315	168	Travis Perkins	314	...	8.0	3.2	55.3
40	25	Try Group	28	...	1.0	4.5	7.9
28	21	Tudor	21	...	...	1.5	...
99	41	Vibroplant	90	...	2.5	3.5	32.4
65	20	Ward Hldgs	54	...	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	35	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	450	...	...	3.3	19.4
21	6	Wescol	20	...	...	...	...
195	90	Westbury	195	...	5.0	3.2	30.4
12	4	West Scaffold	7	...	...	...	...
4	3	Wiggins	3	...	...	...	...
495	362	Wilson Bowdn	495	...	...	2.2	34.8
216	147	Wilson (C)	215	...	3.9	2.3	37.2
194	104	Wimpey G	184	...	...	3.6	...
47	15	YRM	20	...	0.5	3.1	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	463	ADT	585	...	...	...	...
253	198	Adam & Harvey	253	...	13.0	6.4	4.6
92	56	Air London	83	-1	...	6.9	11.3
50	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	93	Auto Sec	131	+1	...	5.8	23.5
140	84	BET Ord	133	...	...	2.1	5.4
115	41	BNB Res	115	...	4.9	5.3	...
318	183	BPP	230	...	8.3	4.5	12.7
285	195	Barbour Index	235	+2	8.0	4.3	16.0
28	15	Bousead	20	...	0.7	4.0	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	217	-1	4.7	2.7	18.8
26	11	Broadcastle	23	...	...	1.4	18.3
73	48	Brooks Service	59	...	...	1.1	...
109	86	CRT Gp	98	...	...	3.3	17.2
222	139	Capita Group	222	+9	...	1.3	34.7
53	31	Caskel Plc	53	+3	...	2.1	20.4
55	18	Chiltern Capital	23	...	...	...	...
70	26	Christie	65	...	...	...	...
364	228	Chubb Sec	362	...	...	1.8	22.5
116	90	Comacc	114	...	...	1.6	29.8
42	6	Corp Services	41	...	...	...	...
91	20	Coutts Cnslng	83	...	...	...	...
154	50	Dart	151	-1	3.3	2.7	20.5
256	198	Davis Service	238	+4	...	4.2	17.9
124	85	EW Fact	119	...	4.4	4.7	13.6
32	11	Gardiner	25	...	0.4	2.1	17.8
288	215	Hays	286	-1	...	2.3	25.0
248	174	Hogg Robinsn	245	...	...	3.4	17.9
70	34	Holmes Protecn	39	...	...	...	2.4
337	127	Hsch Whamp	322	-4	...	1.5	27.4
2175	975	ISS B DKr	2125	...	...	1.0	14.7
637	475	Inchcape	562	+1	...	3.1	18.3
875	669	Johnson Clean	864	-1	25.7	3.7	18.8
12	2	Lep	7	...	...	...	...
288	173	Mtie Gp	280	+2	3.5	1.5	22.3
1187	893	Manpower	1133	...	...	...	...
65	40	Michael Page	65	...	1.8	3.5	27.6
279	115	Penna	115	...	...	8.7	4.3
4	2	Prime People	3	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot Alex	65	...	...	28.8	3.6
423	357	RCO	370	...	14.1	4.8	12.7
118	86	REA	97	...	2.0	2.6	...
108	43	Reed Executive	104	...	...	5.4	22.7
156	105	Reliance Sec	106	...	...	1.3	30.8
249	178	Rentokil	247	+1	2.5	1.3	20.3
295	220	Rolfe & Nolan	295	...	...	3.0	22.0
399	319	Salvesen (C)	331	+1	...	2.3	13.7
43	26	Scott Pickford	43	...	...	...	...
10	5	Select Appo	9	...	...	...	...
1270	695	Serco Gp	1270	...	13.3	1.3	35.1
352	83	Sherwd Cmpo	110	...	...	8.0	3.2
130	90	Skerchley	100	+1	...	3.8	22.9
355	310	Warner Howrd	325	...	6.6	2.6	17.0
45	27	Welpac	27	...	...	...	...
28	14	Wills Gp	25	...	...	2.0	17.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	210	Allied Colloids	233	...	...	2.3	21.4
1033	613	Amersham	1030	+1	...	1.7	29.6
7	1	Anglo Utd	3	...	...	...	...
£115	6325	BASF DM	£115	...	...	3.7	...
304	199	BTP	304	+2	...	3.9	24.4
£142	£101	Bayer DM50	£142	...	...	...	...
178	108	Blagden	108	...	6.5	7.5	11.6
165	93	Brent Chems	131	-1	...	7.1	12.0
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	353	...	...	...	...
29	5	Caird Gp	9	...	...	22.2	16.0
180	126	Canning (W)	153	+3	7.2	6.0	17.5
608	421	Courtaulds	470	+8	...	3.8	11.8
347	228	Croda	327	+1	...	3.0	18.8
149	109	Doefles	109	...	4.6	5.3	8.4
227	175	Ellis & Everard	227	...	...	3.9	21.7
42	15	Euro Colour	36	+1	0.8	3.0	17.5
349	259	Halstead (J)	349	+1	...	2.3	17.3
241	150	Hickson	175	...	...	3.7	16.2
£120	8850	Hoechst	£120	...	...	3.0	...
229	160	Holliday Chem	160	...	...	2.9	14.7
780	608	ICI	778	+10	...	4.4	...
723	576	Laporte	722	+5	19.4	3.4	19.9
230	181	Leigh	190	...	...	5.2	16.7
97	35	MTM	48	...	...	1.5	26.8
2050	1462	Norsk Hydro	1887	...	...	3.4	15.6
464	370	Paterson Zoch	461	...	...	...	...

DRAPERY, STORES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
420	360	-do- 'A'	416	...	...	3.8	14.0
298	193	Flyna	220	+1	...	4.0	18.6
305	173	Pervair	265	...	3.8	1.8	28.1
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	59	...	...	...	...
485	412	Wardle Storeys	443	...	...	4.9	20.5
575	395	Wolstnhme R	573	...	17.0	3.7	19.6
435	330	Yorks Chem	393	...	...	2.5	21.0
300	233	Yule Catto	258	...	...	2.9	16.1
825	593	Zeneca	820	+6	...	4.2	48.4
102	53	Alexon	65	-1	...	5.8	...
97	42	Amber Day	70	...	1.3	2.4	...
385	257	Argos Plc	381	...	...	2.3	32.5
25	9	Ashley Group	10	...	...	2.3	...
118	60	Ashley (Laura)	82	...	0.1	0.2	...
330	278	A-Prev	307	...	5.2	2.1	19.8
185	98	Austin Reed	185	+2	...	1.7	...
155	135	Beattie (J) 'A'	147	...	...	5.2	14.8
121	64	Bentalls	120	...	1.9	2.2	...
278	128	Betterware	140	+1	...	1.9	16.8
42	22	Blacks Lsrs	38	...	2.2	7.4	...
227	133	Body Shop	224	+1	...	1.0	28.9
16	9	Brown & Jacksn	12	...	...	0.8	6.3
434	318	Brown (N)	420	...	...	2.2	24.7
87	60	Burton	65	...	...	3.9	...
195	126	Cantors	195	...	...	2.6	22.2
395	295	Church	395	+7	12.5	4.0	35.1
163	97	Clinton Cards	150	-2	4.3	3.6	18.1
280	212	Coats Viyella	260	...	...	3.6	85.8
112	78	Colourvision	83	...	5.6	8.4	14.9
161	154	Cty Casuals	159	+1	...	3.3	14.7
935	374	Courts Furnish	890	...	5.6	0.8	11.1
155	115	Crown Eyes	155	...	...	6.0	10.6
130	89	Dairy Farm Intl	121	+1	...	3.0	17.8
112	51	Dewhirst (IJ)	98	...	0.8	1.0	31.5
293	189	Dixons Grp	276	+2	...	2.8	...
21	8	EBA Gp	8	...	...	...	68.7
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
228	71	Essex Furst	228	+8	...	1.9	36.5
273	203	Etam	232	...	7.0	3.8	21.3
608	499	Fine Art Dev	524	...	13.0	3.1	17.0
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
690	498	Formister	690	...	14.5	2.7	12.4
180	24	French Conn	124	+1	...	...	...
74	43	Gent Sit	72	...	...	3.6	22.4
86	33	Goldsmiths Gp	86	-1	0.3	0.4	...
639	374	GUS	634	+9	...	2.3	19.5
40	21	Hampden Grp	21	...	...	6.0	10.4
277	30	Harstone	55	+1	...	...	...
33	20	Helene Plc	31	-1	2.0	7.9	15.0
96	29	Heritage	96	+3	...	...	...
79	35	Honeysuckle	70	...	...	4.0	...
181	63	Jacques Vert	177	...	...	2.1	13.7
731	446	Kingfisher	742	+3	...	2.3	25.5
75	62	Leslie Wise Gp	75	...	4.0	6.7	15.5
685	495	Liberty	535	...	7.2	1.7	63.0
380	241	Lloyds Chem	360	+1	...	2.5	12.7
185	120	MFI	165	+3	...	2.8	34.7
457	311	Marks Spencer	440	...	...	2.4	22.5
580	445	Menzies (John)	569	...	...	2.4	16.1
259	135	Moss Bros	238	...	5.5	2.9	28.0
222	139	Next	227	...	3.5	1.9	27.1
41	15	Olivier (G)	39	+1	...	...	...
325	197	Ortifange Ind	306	-4	...	4.1	14.8
63	24	Pentos	25	...	0.8	4.0	5.2
313	185	QS Hldgs	225	...	5.1	2.9	16.0
69	20	Rhino Grp	64	...	...	...	...
185	120	Rossbys	185	...	...	3.3	22.2
161	126	Sherwood Gp	147	...	...	3.2	13.2
131	93	Sears	130	+1	...	3.4	...
47	11	Signet Group	27	...	...	...	...
527	400	Smith WH 'A'	518	-1	...	3.4	17.0
20	4	Specialeyes	14	+1	...	...	...
237	176	Storehouse	236	...	...	2.7	23.1
191	146	T & S Stores	147	...	6.0	5.1	10.9
162	71	Tie Rack	156	...	1.0	0.8	25.5
239	160	Time Products	234	...	2.7	4.1	20.2
128	63	Usher (Frank)	111	...	...	6.8	9.6
396	302	Vendome	388	+3	...	2.0	18.1
45	27	Vivat	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
48	34	Wensum	44	...	...	5.3	...
120	76	Wickes	114	...	...	0.2	51.8
78	45	Wld of Leather	54	...	...	...	...
192	142	Wyevale	176	...	...	3.0	23.3
4	2	Xtra-vision	2	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	147	...	...	4.3	14.8
275	223	Acula	263	...	...	3.1	18.9
162	38	Acorn Compu	73	-3	...	...	37.0
480	385	Admiral	478	+3	5.7	1.5	20.2
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	18.4
50	19	Alphameric	39	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	41	+1	0.5	1.5	...
128	61	App Holo	73	-1	...	...	...
43	9	Arlen	35	...	...	...	...
88	39	Astec	81	...	...	0.4	...
255	224	Beales Hunter	240	...	...	4.9	14.8
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2	...	...	...	...
446	319	BICC	393	-10	19.2	6.1	...
558	408	Brick	470	...	10.2	2.8	...
1700	905	Burland	1100	...	...	...	...
384	220	Bowthorpe	359	-1	...	2.4	23.8
489	376	BT	486	-1	...	4.1	16.8
232	150	BT P/P	227	-2	...	4.1	23.0
18	9	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	14	...	...	0.1	0.8
183	45	Burnfield	69	...	...	5.7	10.4
524	334	Cable Wireless	522	+3	...	1.8	27.3
27	11	Chloride	24	+1	...	...	...
223	229	CML Micro	270	...	...	2.2	19.6
115	74	Compter People	108	...	...	...	...
164	108	Cray Elect	159	...	...	1.2	16.4
433	185	Crichley	427	...	...	1.4	24.6
554	414	Delta	482	...	...	3.6	20.1
448	235	Denmans Ele	446	...	...	1.7	19.0
430	395	Domino	400	...	7.4	2.3	13.7
71	48	Dowding Mills	71	+2	...	4.4	30.4
1220	865	Druck	1220	+7	10.0	1.0	26.0
521	358	Electrocomponents	520	...	...	2.0	21.2
770	470	El Data Prc	593	...	5.5	1.2	...
146	43	Electron House	133	...	2.6	2.4	29.2
30	10	Enterz	21	...	0.1	0.6	...
719	442	Eurotherm	719	...	9.5	1.7	...
195	108	FKI	194	...	...	2.1	28.5
593	340	Farnell Elec	538	-1	...	1.5	28.5
91	33	Feedback	73	...	...	3.4	9.9
18	1	Ferranti	1	...	...	...	...
304	101	Flux Tech	300	...	...	0.8	24.9
280	81	Forward Gp	233	...	...	2.1	16.5
23	13	Forward Tech	15	...	...	...	...
307	284	GEC	331	-1	10.4	3.9	16.6
190	132	Gresby	165	...	...	8.3	34.7
14	7	Graystone	11	...	...	...	...
57	35	Hitchare	39	...	...	1.6	...
169	83	INETEM	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
169	118	Ind Control	150	...	...	3.7	15.1
388	320	Jones Stroud	398	...	...	2.8	15.6
105	26	Kalamazoo	102	-1	2.7	3.3	23.7
19	8	Kembrey	12	...	0.1	1.6	...
349	260	Kenwood App	349	+4	...	2.8	19.4
265	47	Kewill Sys	223	...	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	165	...	6.0	4.5	19.6
60	16	Laser-Scan	19	...	...	...	...
365	122	LPMS	145	...	...	0.6	20.4
300	205	Lec Refrig	240	...	9.0	4.4	...
179	129	Life Sciences	147	...	3.7	3.2	15.9
283	164	Logica	270	...	...	1.9	31.1
229	129	LPA Inds	146	...	...	8.5	14.7
278	183	MR Data Mngmt	205	...	...	3.3	19.1
285	175	Macro 4	665	...	...	3.3	20.2
3013	403	Memtec-Sw	238	+1	...	1.9	21.1
222	144	Micro Focus	923	...	...	...	8.5
35	23	Microgen	148	...	7.2	6.1	10.1
529	357	Microvitec	32	...	...	...	...
584	98	Misys	507	...	...	1.7	18.5
133	188	Mitel	359	...	...	...	...
52	16	MMT Compu	143	...	...	3.5	19.5
272	202	Molynx	36	...	...	...	...
165	108	MTL Instr	250	...	...	1.3	...
267	116	Multitone Elect	141	...	...	1.9	18.8
3206	2612	Murray Enter	267	...	...	3.5	3.1
188	128	NYNEX	2712	...	...	1.9	...
68	42	Neotronics	128	...	...	2.6	2.5
295	58	Newmark (L)	54	...	...	...	...
75	28	Norbain	279	...	...	0.7	21.5
15	5	Northamber	47	...	0.6	1.6	...
314	195	Oceonics	7	...	...	...	...
83	48	Oxford Inst	313	...	4.6	1.8	21.4
81	29	P-E Internl	78	...	...	...	...
95	55	P & P	62	...	1.5	3.0	32.9
227	115	Peek	77	...	3.4	5.5	20.2
9750	9000	Pegasus	204	...	...	3.9	52.4
1437	725	Philips Fn 4%	9750	...	...	5.9	...
353	211	-do- Lmp Inv	1387	...	...	...	...
298	171	Phonelink	353	+5	...	...	...
283	151	Pifco	283	...	...	1.8	24.6
96	63	-do- 'A' Voting	283	...	...	1.8	23.7
120	76	Plasmec	72	...	...	5.2	6.1
188	81	Pressac	100	...	...	3.2	21.2
261	147	Psion	181	...	...	1.7	48.1
70	38	Racal Elect	194	...	4.2	2.7	11.5
70	34	Radamec	38	...	...	4.9	8.1
92	61	Radius	27	...	2.2	10.4	9.3
35	18	Real Time	73	...	...	5.1	15.0
620	367	Riva	25	...	...	...	31.7
348	222	Sage Gp	515	...	9.9	2.4	...
88	49	Sanderson Elec	310	...	9.9	4.1	13.0
181	117	Scantronic	72	...	3.1	5.5	19.7
375	270	Scholes Grp	162	...	...	3.9	21.0
42	26	Sema Gp	310	+1	3.9	1.2	25.1
64	37	Silvermines	42	+2	...	3.0	...
2695	1237	Soundtracks	63	-1	...	4.5	21.3
27	4	TDK	2275	...	...	1.4	25.7
198	80	TDS Circuits	11	...	...	...	...
1017	809	Telemetrix	142	...	...	0.7	23.4
152	96	THORN EMI	1000	...	...	4.0	23.2
103	23	Thorpe FW	133	...	...	2.5	15.5
575	372	Total Systems	24	...	1.5	7.8	4.3
298	164	Tunstall	560	...	7.0	1.6	...
14	8	Unitech	256	...	...	3.0	60.6
35	22	Verity	13	...	...	...	...
592	367	Vistec	22	...	...	2.1	13.0
473	368	Vodafone	592	+10	...	1.6	25.8
26	11	Volex	444	+3	18.1	5.1	18.2
290	223	Westrn Selectn	20	...	0.2	1.6	...
		Wholesale Ftgs	285	...	11.7	5.5	28.2

ELECTRICITY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
676	389	East Midlands	665	-3	...	3.9	11.7
704	397	Eastern Elec	702	+1	...	3.6	13.2
480	304	Hydro-Elect	477	+1	...	3.1	16.6
673	404	London Elect	672	+1	...	4.0	12.5
772	458	Manweb	769	-1	...	3.6	9.5
731	443	Midlands Elec	726	-2	...	3.7	11.3
505	273	National Powr	505	+8	...	2.7	12.5
739	440	Northern Elec	737	...	...	3.9	9.5
281	100	Nthn Ireland	280	+1	...	3.2	13.3
762	439	Norweb	759	...	20.8	3.5	10.8
568	273	PowerGen	567	+5	...	2.5	14.9
487	285	Scottish Power	486	+4	...	3.0	17.9
751	430	Seeboard	748	+5	...	3.5	9.6
758	449	Sth Wales	755	-1	...	3.0	11.5
704	426	Sth Western	702	+1	...	3.8	10.2
722	406	Southern Elec	721	+1	...	3.6	9.5
692	405	Yorkshire Elec	689	-1	...	3.9	12.9

FINANCE, LAND

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60	50	Aitken Hume	53	...	1.0	2.3	11.3
133	47	BWD	132	...	...	3.2	20.6
101	26	Baltic Plc	99	...	...	1.3	...
628	413	Caledonia	624	...	...	3.1	23.2

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1900	1075	Camellia	1900	...	...	2.0	7.1
328	263	Candover	328	+4	10.4	4.0	23.2
385	71	Fleming	385	+1	...	0.2	...
367	155	Govett	367	...	...	4.5	10.8
186	125	Ivory Sime	185	...	...	4.8	15.8
7	3	LIT	7	...	...	...	...
240	154	Lon Forfaitnge	236	...	8.7	4.8	17.3
79	47	Mandain	79	...	...	...	...
12	3	Nat Home Loan	8	...	...	...	...
53	40	Newmarket	53	+1	...	...	...
341	286	Rathbone Bro	315	+5	6.5	3.6	19.1
26	17	Rutland Tst	21	...	...	4.7	12.8
340	283	S & U	315	...	10.2	4.0	11.7
85	48	Singer & Fried	85	...	...	4.4	...
1115	713	Sotheby's	1115	+30	...	1.0	...
133	111	3i Capital	132	...	3.0	2.8	54.4
2556	1487	Amer Express	2087	...	...	...	...
1133	835	Henderson Ad	1023	...	...	5.1	23.6
200	92	Investco	189	...	...	2.0	...
298	164	Jardine Strat	295	...	...	2.7	12.3
283	134	MAI	263	...	...	3.3	16.7
728	389	MAM	720	+2	16.0	2.8	18.0
1015	633	M & G	1013	...	25.0	3.1	...
433	309	Smith New Ct	425	...	...	2.1	4.1
81	45	Trio Hldgs	59	...	2.5	5.4	...

FOODS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
569	456	AB Food	569	+1	...	3.3	11.6
77	46	ASDA Group	55	+1	1.6	3.8	...
345	170	Argyll & Hunt	340	+2	10.0	3.0	...
80	55	Albert Fisher	60	+1	3.7	7.1	...
407	246	Argyll	271	+1	...	5.0	10.0
230	180	Banks (S C)	230	...	9.0	5.1	9.8
402	305	Barr (AG)	309	...	6.5	2.6	15.6
85	57	Beasons Crps	58	...	...	6.1	13.0
141	100	Bertford Intl	127	...	...	...	...
435	357	Booker	400	+1	...	6.6	35.5
52	35	Borthwick	49	...	...	3.0	81.3
505	430	Brake Bros	468	...	6.3	1.7	19.5
51	38	Budgen	40	...	...	3.1	12.1
517	407	Cadbury-Schw	510	+1	...	3.3	18.0
144	78	Carrs Milling	143	...	...	3.8	10.2
196	133	Cranswick	163	...	...	6.2	15.2
22	8	Cullens	13	...	0.5	4.8	37.3
384	119	Dalepak	121	...	6.0	6.2	9.5
521	424	Dalgety	496	+4	...	5.2	14.2
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
257	191	Devro	249	...	...	2.8	23.7
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
383	269	Farepak	375	...	5.7	1.9	23.1
10	3	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	70	+1	...	7.4	23.2
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.6	18.0
483	305	Geest	335	...	8.1	3.0	15.1
16	7	Global	14	...	...	4.5	21.8
50	43	Grand Central	49	...	0.8	2.0	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	146	+1	...	5.6	8.2
175	131	Hillsdown	163	+2	8.8	6.7	12.8
250	148	Iceland Group	174	+1	...	2.5	11.0
131	92	JLI Group	101	...	...	5.9	11.0
853	542	Kwik Save	592	+8	...	3.9	10.7
262	144	Low (Wm)	161	+6	...	6.5	5.6
86	41	Matthews (B)	86	...	2.3	3.4	56.3
19	11	Merchant Retail	13	...	0.9	9.3	26.2
174	84	Morrison (W)	107	+6	...	1.0	13.9
233	177	Nichols (JN)	226	...	8.5	3.1	16.4
291	207	Nthn Foods	229	+5	...	4.6	11.2
20	8	Nrthmbrn Fds	9	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	181	...	...	4.3	10.0
275	228	Park Foods	275	...	...	2.7	21.2
115	38	Perkins Food	68	+1	...	8.2	7.8
114	47	PizzaExpress	111	+2	...	0.6	23.5
9	1	Regina Hlth	5	...	...	...	...
504	360	Sainsbury J	438	...	...	2.9	15.4
86	33	Sentry Farm	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
225	90	Stirs Food	93	...	...	8.7	17.9
439	355	Tate & Lyle	395	+2	...	4.1	10.4
273	176	Tesco	212	+1	...	4.3	9.6
211	125	Thorntons	162	+2	...	2.8	...
183	101	Treats	145	...	...	3.2	16.6
410	303	Unigate	364	+6	...	5.6	11.9
437	328	Utd Biscuits	359	+2	...	5.3	22.2
24	18	Usborne	21	...	...	3.2	15.5
337	248	Watson & Phil	279	...	13.2	5.9	14.5

HOTELS, CATERERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk H	26	...	...	...	...
93	77	City Centre Rest	90	...	1.5	2.2	21.7
265	170	Forte	261	...	...	3.6	20.5
215	148	Friendly Hotels	174	+2	...	4.1	33.9
11	5	Harmony Props	9	...	...	...	...
162	87	Jarvis Hotel	162	+4	...	3.9	13.1
222	142	Ladbroke	164	...	11.1	8.5	14.0
85	59	Mandarin Orntl	85	+1	...	4.0	21.1
59	44	Queens Moat	47	...	...	3.7	...
99	83	-do- 7¼% cvpr	85	...	7.5	11.0	...
2	1	Regal Hotels	1	...	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11	Ryan Hotels E	18	...	...	6.8	...
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	798	-2	7.0	1.1	...
66	34	Stakis	64	...	...	0.9	...

INDUSTRIALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	36	...	...	...	2.2
616	455	AAH	480	...	...	4.6	16.0
185	123	AIM	141	+3	7.5	6.6	8.5
132	88	APV	118	...	...	5.7	...
238	81	ASW	157	...	...	4.8	...
186	118	Advest	172	+5	...	5.2	16.6
29	10	Aerospace Eng	19	...	...	4.6	25.0
290	249	Allsprung	288	...	...	2.0	18.4
192	113	Alexdra W	192	...	4.1	2.7	30.4
13	6	Allied Radio	7	...	...	...	...
292	207	Alumasc	283	...	...	2.6	16.7
48	17	AJVs	39	...	1.0	3.2	...
725	345	Amber Ind	725	...	...	3.3	16.6
56	45	Amberley Gp	50	...	...	4.5	...
107	75	Amegen	81	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	68	+1	...	5.5	...
1005	703	Antofagasta	998	+10	...	2.0	18.4
54	37	Armour	48	...	...	4.3	11.4
170	143	Ash & Lacy	166	...	6.4	4.8	17.2
4	2	Ass Br Eng	3	...	...	...	...
541	434	Avon Rubber	474	...	...	4.6	...
268	168	Assoc Nursg	265	-2	...	0.5	16.2
687	488	Atlas Equip	493	-3	...	5.6	12.4
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	66	...	...	...	...
197	147	BBA	195	+2	...	4.9	16.4
115	28	BLP Group	115	+5	...	...	...
31	13	BM Gp	24	+1	0.5	3.3	...
770	590	BOC	674	-2	...	4.3	15.9
79	50	BSG	62	...	...	6.5	21.6
549	353	BSS Group	549	...	...	3.9	30.6
409	205	BTR	377	-2	...	3.2	21.1
221	147	BWI	148	...	...	5.7	13.7
50	25	Babcock	29	+1	...	4.7	17.6
9	4	Bailey (CH)	7	...	...	...	...
289	228	Baird (Wm)	232	...	8.9	4.9	15.8
1062	550	Barlow Rand	806	+56	...	4.2	...
96	48	Baynes (Charles)	64	+1	...	2.9	26.2
15	4	Beauford	4	...	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham	2	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)	28	...	...	...	...
27	15	Benson Group	15	...	...	2.4	11.7
707	285	Bespak	325	...	10.2	4.0	10.0
133	55	Bibby (J)	66	...	2.0	3.8	...
312	129	Billam (J)	226	...	5.3	2.9	11.4
41	21	Bilston Brnsttn	30	...	...	...	...
11	2	Bimec Ind	3	...	...	...	...
243	118	Bisby	243	...	...	3.7	1.9
45	29	Black Arrow	31	...	...	2.1	8.5
1	1	Black & Edgtn	1	...	...	...	...
256	136	Black (Peter)	256	-2	3.7	1.8	22.5
590	129	Bluebird Toys	586	-2	...	1.0	16.9
322	230	Bodycote	262	+3	...	2.4	16.8
40	23	Bogod 'A'	33	...	0.7	2.7	12.2
579	416	Boots	579	+4	...	3.0	22.0
61	39	Booth Inds	45	+2	...	...	...
523	402	Bowater	483	-7	...	3.1	20.2
1682	1189	Bowater Inc	1577	...	...	...	...
279	199	Boxmore Intl	280	...	...	1.8	19.5
19	12	Brasway	15	...	...	4.3	...
303	204	Brammer	288	...	13.0	5.6	21.4
27	12	Bridgend Gp	25	+2	0.4	...	...
125	64	Bridon	121	...	...	4.1	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	81	...	...	3.9	...
58	31	Brierley Inv	48	...	...	7.0	11.6
388	190	Br Bldg & Eng	190	...	8.0	5.3	...
119	42	Br Bloodstock	117	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	447	+2	...	2.9	16.0
135	54	Br Steel	122	+1	...	1.5	...
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
198	115	Br Thornton	175	...	...	3.6	17.9
268	215	Br Vita	244	-1	7.3	3.7	15.0
15	5	Britton Grp	15	...	...	1.5	...
805	565	Broken Hill	746	+5	...	2.4	35.2
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	90	...	...	6.1	11.7
11	6	Brooke Tool	11	+1	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	51	...	...	...	...
157	91	Bullough	157	...	6.0	4.8	28.9
24	11	Business Tech	14	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	15	...	0.5	4.8	14.4
42	11	Campbell & Arm	39	+1	...	...	...
39	6	Cannon St	32	...	...	...	...
260	205	Cape	254	...	...	5.2	17.2
416	254	Caradon	415	...	...	2.6	33.5
200	128	-do- pf	199	...	7.2	4.5	...
272	178	Cardo Eng	272	+3	8.6	4.0	19.4
2886	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2175	+12	...	2.8	...
80	68	Cassidy Bros	80	...	...	3.8	13.1
225	158	Castings	220	...	4.6	2.6	15.5
71	53	Cathay Intl	61	+1	...	...	...
195	113	Chambrlin Hill	170	...	6.5	4.8	10.6
753	605	Charter	723	...	...	3.8	11.1
345	220	Chemring	315	...	9.0	3.6	...
92	45	Chelsfield Gp	46	...	4.5	12.2	9.0
45	15	Chillington	40	...	1.0	3.2	...
230	144	Christies Int	226	+1	...	0.8	56.1
68	34	Clayhithe	56	...	...	4.6	...
95	15	Claymo Son	55	...	...	...	...
7	3	Co Designers	7	...	...	...	...
405	295	Cohen (A)	403	...	3.4	1.1	...
242	179	Community H	242	...	...	3.6	16.5
246	185	Concentric	211	...	5.8	3.5	...
288	120	Cook (Wm)	274	+5	6.0	2.7	16.6
233	182	Cookson	233	+4	...	3.2	30.8
81	38	Copymore	78	...	...	1.5	24.2
238	130	Crawf Pkr 'A'	147	...	...	4.8	19.9
178	92	Coats	112	...	5.3	6.0	...
245	150	Creighton Nat	245	...	...	3.8	17.6
48	27	CrestaCare	39	...	0.6	2.1	33.7
3950	2938	Dana	3862	...	...	...	...
313	79	Danka Bs Sys	284	...	...	0.7	27.0
254	193	David Brown	244	...	...	3.1	17.3
22	3	Davies (DW)	18	...	...	...	...
848	632	De La Rue	848	+2	...	2.8	20.4
38	16	Deakin Heel	37	...	1.1	3.7	28.5
574	391	Diploma	550	...	12.0	2.7	...
90	30	Dobson Park	89	...	3.7	5.3	...
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	114	...	5.0	5.5	21.0
83	57	-do- 'A'	81	...	5.0	7.7	14.9
16	8	EFG	14	...	...	...	...
440	358	EIS	375	...	...	4.0	14.8
28	19	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
50	19	Elec	45	...	...	...	0.00
2537	1750	Electrolux 'B'	2250	...	...	2.3	...
73	43	Elliott (B)	68	...	...	...	...
492	394	Eng China Cl	476	-3	...	5.3	27.7
140	111	Environmed	125	...	...	...	...
3962	1550	Ericsson 'B'	2200	...	...	1.1	...
85	32	Eurocopy	84	...	1.7	2.6	...
87	47	Expamet	60	+2	...	5.0	1.4
717	480	Fairey Group	669	+1	10.7	2.0	20.6
121	47	Fenner	112	-7	...	...	...
85	32	Ferraris Group	82	...	3.0	3.0	...
4	1	Ferromet	4	...	...	...	...
29	13	Ferrum	14	...	1.4	12.5	9.8
66	28	Fife Indmar	63	...	...	5.5	...
251	102	Fisons	113	+1	...	9.6	10.5
55	29	Fitzwilton	55	...	...	8.2	...
288	215	Flogas	283	...	...	3.8	12.0
43	33	Folkes Group nv	38	...	1.5	4.9	21.6
94	56	French (Thmas)	94	...	3.6	4.8	47.1
245	162	Frost Group	245	+7	...	2.3	31.7
88	70	GEI Intl	77	...	...	4.0	...
533	434	GKN	530	-1	...	4.8	35.4
51	42	Gr Hldgs	49	...	...	4.6	...
101	79	Garton Eng	91	...	4.1	5.7	...
161	103	Gestetner	139	+1	8.2	7.4	6.1
68	23	Gleves	49	...	...	3.6	35.5
801	509	Glaxo	722	-1	...	3.8	18.9
38	16	Glenchewton	37	...	...	...	...
374	245	Glynwed	366	...	11.6	4.0	34.5
129	68	Goode Durrant	125	...	...	5.4	...
175	102	Grampian Hd	175	+5	5.5	3.9	30.4
536	341	Granada	535	+1	...	2.1	21.9
455	301	Great Sthrn	452	...	...	3.2	18.6
117	73	Green (Ernst)	81	...	...	10.8	12.3
15	8	Greencare	14	...	...	2.6	14.3
17	5	Guardian Grp	6	...	...	...	...
68	30	Haden Maclin	68	...	...	3.6	24.7
102	44	Hadleigh Inds	92	...	...	1.3	...
290	115	Hall Eng	276	-3	8.6	3.9	23.0
235	161	Halma	235	...	...	1.1	29.3
53	30	Hampson Ind	47	...	1.6	4.3	14.5
286	222	Hanson	272	-1	...	5.2	20.2
221	146	Harris (Philip)	147	...	...	5.8	8.9
205	147	Harrisn Crsfld	195	...	9.0	5.8	28.1
123	38	Havelock Euro	121	+1	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	38	...	...	...	...
33	17	Headway	33	...	...	2.7	...
13	1	Healthcare	1	...	...	...	0.5
449	301	Hepworth	444	...	14.8	4.2	19.1
228	160	Hewitt (J)	203	...	3.2	2.0	15.9
57	15	High-Point	53	...	0.5	1.1	...
178	112	Hill & Smith	178	...	...	4.0	34.8
19	6	Hobson	16	...	...	...	77.0
176	87	Holders Tech	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
52	30	Hopkinsons	47	+2	0.9	2.4	35.6
188	133	Hornby	176	...	...	6.4	16.6
88	54	Howden	78	+1	2.3	3.5	14.4
260	173	Hunting	215	-1	...	5.8	18.1
503	269	Huntigh Tec	478	+3	...	2.6	12.2
328	247	IMI	328	+1	...	3.8	29.1
119	90	ISA Intl	119	+4	1.5	1.6	18.5
205	131	Intercare Gp	153	...	...	2.9	...
286	235	Isotron	284	...	4.3	1.0	16.5
665	360	Jardine Math	643	+3	...	2.0	23.3
537	425	Johnson Math	534	-1	...	2.5	20.8
64	35	Johnson & FB	37	...	1.3	4.6	...
177	104	Johnston	162	...	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	27	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	29	...	0.7	3.2	...
178	73	Kalon	149	-1	...	2.9	20.7
287	195	Kelsey Ind	230	...	8.0	4.4	...
735	465	Kershaw (A)	730	...	27.0	4.6	37.9
276	75	Kleeneze	276	+2	1.0	0.5	...
164	61	LCW	160	...	3.4	2.7	13.3
351	266	Laird	341	...	...	3.8	16.8
157	103	Lilleshall	145	...	...	3.8	19.1
223	97	Lincat	205	...	...	3.7	14.4
33	4	Lincoln Hse	30	...	...	...	25.1
128	76	Linread	95	...	3.8	5.0	14.7
318	170	Linton Park	313	...	...	5.6	11.3
15	9	Lionheart	10	...	0.2	2.4	...
22	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	24.7
274	97	Lon Intl	135	+1	6.2	5.8	...
144	70	Lonrho	129	-1	4.0	3.9	...
388	269	Low & Bonar	365	...	...	3.2	51.1
46	14	ML Hldgs	44	+1	...	...	...
56	27	MS Intl	55	...	...	5.8	35.6
59	39	MY Holdings	49	...	...	3.3	...
223	168	Macfarlane	223	...	...	1.9	25.3
460	379	McKechnie	449	...	14.7	4.1	...
123	85	McLeod Russel	119	...	...	6.4	17.6
106	63	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
132	71	Mang Bronze	130	...	2.5	2.4	...
26	19	Marling	20	...	...	5.2	...
216	124	Mayborn	216	+3	...	3.0	16.6
62	29	Mayflower	53	...	...	1.1	44.3
236	85	Medeva	132	...	...	2.3	10.7
118	88	Meggitt	96	...	...	5.0	16.4
125	98	Metalr	116	...	...	4.0	19.0
154	119	Metrotect	120	...	...	3.4	16.7
99	70	Meteca	99	...	...	...	...
97	29	Midstates	97	+1	...	1.0	13.5
28	14	Mining & Ald	23	...	0.7	4.2	...
575	368	Molins	575	+5	...	3.1	13.8
365	262	Morgan Cble	360	+1	...	4.4	18.9
184	134	Morris Ashby	176	...	...	4.3	13.2
38	18	Neepsend	34	...	1.0	3.7	45.6
73	34	Nestor-BNA	63	...	3.1	6.3	15.1
214	122	Nobo Gp	214	+10	4.8	2.8	21.1
195	122	Norcros	193	...	...	4.6	27.7
51	33	Novo Group	33	...	...	4.2	10.6
413	310	Nu-Swift	399	...	...	...	...
81	56	Office Elec Mac	58	...	...	...	...
36	21	Old Ind	33	+1	...	4.2	...
165	123	PCT	164	...	...	5.5	18.6
91	36	Pacer Systems	88	...	...	4.9	...
138	87	Penland	102	...	...	3.2	13.9
395	285	Photo-Me	290	+2	4.6	2.0	18.8
179	97	Pilkington	170	...	...	1.8	...
93	68	Plantsbrook	93	...	3.1	4.2	14.7
154	125	Polypipe	141	+2	2.1	1.9	14.1
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	16	...	...	3.1	7.3
14	5	Porth Gp	12	...	...	...	...
376	272	Powerscreen	319	...	...	2.7	16.6
21	16	Prospect Inds	19	...	0.8	5.4	...
65	35	RPS Group	56	...	2.3	5.1	12.4
95	73	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil	152	...	...	0.8	50.9
989	636	Rank Org	985	+5	31.0	3.9	26.9
33	13	Ransomes	13	...	...	...	...
705	532	Reckitt Colm	705	+4	...	3.0	16.2
77	50	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
7	2	Reete	7	...	...	...	...
277	131	Relyon	270	-2	5.0	3.3	32.4
303	208	Renishaw	295	...	...	2.8	35.1
126	55	Renold	126	...	...	1.7	...
1865	1240	Reuters	1864	-16	22.1	1.5	30.8
83	24	Rexmore	74	...	2.0	3.5	...
188	91	Ricardo Group	183	...	...	3.9	25.9
76	58	Richard (Leics)	70	...	3.7	6.7	...
98	63	Richardson West	85	...	3.0	4.5	22.8
142	109	Roysner	130	...	8.2	7.9	18.4
136	97	-do- 'A'	126	...	8.2	8.2	17.9
38	14	Ross Gp	18	...	0.6	4.4	7.6
184	131	Rotork	170	+1	...	2.7	19.9
167	89	Rubicon	161	...	...	3.3	23.4
66	43	Russell (A)	62	...	...	1.0	...
57	15	SEP Indl	37	...	0.8	2.7	...
1087	625	SKF 'B'	1087	...	...	...	...
60	39	Saville Grdn (J)	59	...	...	4.7	29.4
248	205	Scapa	233	...	...	3.0	17.4
238	179	Scholl	180	...	...	4.4	13.1
6	4	Scot Heritable	5	...	...	...	...
322	277	Scotia	285	...	...	...	...
1155	917	Securicor	1148	+5	2.6	0.3	43.7
894	562	-do- 'A'	892	+4	2.6	0.4	33.9
770	465	Security Serv	769	+1	5.1	0.8	38.0
126	77	Senior Eng	123	...	...	3.3	20.5
361	278	Seton Health	312	-1	...	2.4	18.4
68	42	Sheldon Jones	43	...	...	...	...
165	88	Shiloh	138	...	3.0	2.7	14.9
344	271	Sidlaw	300	...	...	6.4	14.0
587	427	Siebe	569	-2	...	2.3	20.0
383	220	Silentnight	380	...	...	2.8	19.4
181	102	Sime Darby	168	...	...	3.2	...
142	32	Simon Eng	121	-1	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	187	...	...	4.7	14.6
47	35	Six Hundred	36	...	...	5.2	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	149	+1	...	4.0	16.6
513	373	SmithKline	400	+4	9.6	3.0	14.5
450	340	SmithKline Uts	386	+2	...	3.3	12.4
454	320	Smiths Ind	454	+3	...	3.1	18.2
140	58	Sthn Bus	75	...	3.5	5.8	7.1
467	305	Spandex	466	...	...	1.8	20.7
560	300	Spear (JW)	510	...	4.5	1.1	9.5
376	314	Spirax-Sarco	337	...	...	3.6	21.1
145	44	Spring Ram	56	...	...	0.5	18.1
270	201	Staveley	211	+1	...	5.0	11.9
197	126	Sterling Ind	197	...	...	3.8	21.9
187	97	Suter	180	-1	9.0	6.3	18.8
549	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	549	+15	...	1.6	...
7	1	Sycamore	2	...	...	...	...
78	53	Sykes-Pick	53	...	...	7.3	10.1
168	120	Symonds	168	...	...	3.6	24.0
414	279	TI	410	-2	...	3.3	28.0
33	12	TLS Range	31	-1	...	1.0	...
337	211	TT Group	330	-1	...	2.5	20.3
262	201	Takare	262	+3	...	0.9	22.8
808	618	Takeda Chem	676	-17	...	0.9	12.8
68	24	Tex Hldgs	61	...	...	...	...
108	50	Thomas (E)	98	...	...	7.3	10.5
240	150	Tilton	220	...	...	2.4	...
271	212	Tomkins	234	+2	...	3.4	17.2
113	67	Trafalgar H	93	+1	...	4.5	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	70	+2	3.2	5.7	4.8
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	135	...	...	0.6	15.9
278	214	UniChem	278	+1	6.4	2.9	18.2
375	275	Unidare	365	...	...	3.5	...
76	11	Unigroup	37	...	...	...	...
1249	938	Unilever	1215	+6	22.2	2.3	16.5
8112	6362	Unilever (NV)	7887	...	...	2.7	13.0
24	9	Utd Inds	12	...	...	...	...
415	313	VSEL	418	+5	...	4.4	9.3
14	6	Verson	14	+1	...	...	...
175	97	Vickers	174	...	...	1.6	...
367	243	Victaulic	264	...	...	3.7	13.0
454	283	Vinten	451	+1	...	2.0	21.0
694	427	Vosper Thorny	661	+1	...	3.1	15.3
48	33	WSP Hldgs	37	+1	...	9.1	9.6
468	368	Wagon Ind	451	...	...	4.9	19.6
8	1	Wakebourne	1	...	...	...	8.2
102	71	Walker Greenbk	101	...	3.1	3.8	25.8
258	201	Wassall	254	-1	2.7	1.4	25.6
45	22	Wiford Wdgwd	44	...	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	318	-12	...	2.4	17.9
993	600	Wellcome	651	-2	...	3.3	13.8
23	16	Wellman	22	...	0.9	5.1	35.9
358	260	West Hlthcare	337	...	...	1.4	21.6
510	455	Whatman	465	...	9.7	2.2	15.4
353	211	Whessoe	217	-3	8.2	4.9	...
95	27	Whitecroft	93	...	...	...	...
10	4	Widney	10	...	...	...	...
130	44	Wilkes (James)	120	...	3.5	...	35.1
365	295	Williams Hldg	365	+2	12.5	4.3	19.1
46	17	Wilshaw	39	...	...	1.7	24.9
878	533	Wolseley	865	+2	...	1.9	25.8
153	125	Wood (Arthur)	135	...	1.5	1.2	58.5
46	35	Wyko	42	...	...	3.0	...
70	38	Young (H)	70	...	3.3	5.9	...

INSURANCE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1997	1193	Alex & Alex	1275	+12	...	5.2	...
2409	1787	Am Gen	1797	-50	...	4.1	...
69	30	Archer (AJ)	69	+1	1.0	1.8	...
183	133	Berry Bch Nbls	170	...	...	4.6	...
150	118	Bradstock	150	...	5.5	4.7	...
498	396	Britannic	433	+13	...	3.4	...
667	556	Com Union	653	+2	...	4.6	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1748	...	...	1.6	23.1
50	18	FAI	46	...	...	...	...
741	546	Gen Accident	725	+1	26.7	4.6	...
230	160	GRE	223	+1	7.1	4.0	18.5
413	293	Heath C E	413	+23	...	4.8	...
228	148	Hogg Gp	148	-1	8.1	6.9	13.4
215	162	JIB Group	174	+3	...	5.4	17.8
546	408	Legal & Gen	518	+3	...	4.7	31.5
1135	768	Liberty Life	1119	-16	...	9.5	21.8
128	99	LIMIT	119	+2	...	...	...
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	415	+3	17.3	5.2	14.9
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	269	...	6.7	3.1	16.7
395	274	London & Man	373	...	14.7	4.9	27.5
443	321	Lowndes Lmb	436	-1	14.0	4.0	15.7
6743	5250	Marsh McLn	5375	+31	...	3.3	...
130	76	Orial	118	...	...	3.3	...
76	50	PWS	75	...	4.0	6.7	10.9
376	282	Prudential	358	...	...	4.3	23.8
379	266	Refuge	332	+1	...	4.2	8.9
347	248	Royal	333	...	...	2.4	...
204	150	Sedgwick	191	-1	...	3.9	23.5
261	100	Steel Burrill	121	-1	...	12.4	7.1
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	68	...	3.0	5.7	...
400	307	Sun Alliance	385	-2	14.2	4.6	...
88	50	Trade Indemnity	85	...	...	...	...
350	239	Transatlantic	350	...	12.0	4.3	32.5
773	499	Utd Friendly	573	+3	15.1	3.3	25.0
243	171	Willis Corroon	217	-2	...	3.8	46.6
25	13	Windsor	24	...	...	...	18.9

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1946	1548	Alliance	1946	-3	45.5	2.9	42.6
287	226	Amer Trust	284	-2	5.2	2.3	58.9
446	304	Ang & O'seas	445	...	6.8	1.9	58.5
160	124	BZW Conv	160	+1	7.8	6.1	18.8
201	133	Bankers	200	...	3.6	2.3	...
361	264	Baring Tribne	361	+1	6.4	2.2	57.1
203	131	Berry Starq	198	...	2.2	1.4	64.4
115	96	Br Assets	114	...	...	4.7	27.3
90	57	Br Empire Sec	90	...	...	1.3	76.9
34	14	-do- Wnts	34	...	...	...	...
215	136	Br Inv	215	-1	4.6	2.7	48.3
216	130	Conti Assets	216	+2	2.4	1.4	71.9
195	143	Derby Inc	154	+1	...	11.6	9.3
310	195	-do- Cap	310	...	...	...	...
95	62	Drayton Blue	95	...	8.4	11.1	10.5
85	35	-do- Eng Intl	84	...	1.0	1.5	...
143	84	-do- Far East	142	...	0.6	0.5	...
154	95	-do- Korea	152	...	0.5	0.4	...
760	576	Dunedin Inc G	760	-1	...	4.2	35.0
100	76	-do- Japan	85	-1	...	...	...
53	34	-do- Warrants	45	...	...	...	...
259	513	-do- Wwde	759	+2	9.5	1.6	...
301	222	Dundee & Lon	301	...	9.0	3.7	...
341	250	Edinburgh	341	+1	8.5	3.1	37.4
320	183	Electra Inv	320	+3	7.0	2.8	...
203	141	Electric Gen	203	...	3.1	2.0	62.8
119	85	English Scot	119	+1	...	...	...
334	205	European Asset	334	+2	...	2.2	43.4
146	77	Finsbury 'A'	146	+1	3.0	2.6	47.0
323	248	Fleming Amer	321	-1	0.8	0.3	...
245	190	-do- Claver	245	+2	...	2.7	48.4
358	212	Do Conti	358	+9	2.7	0.9	...
223	147	-do- Entp	223	+2	...	2.6	45.1
436	213	-do- F East	435	...	1.1	0.3	...
365	246	-do- Fledg	365	+1	3.0	1.0	...
121	93	-do- Hi Inc	120	...	...	4.6	20.5
260	136	-do- Japan	225	-1	...	0.3	...
310	259	-do- Merc	310	+2	6.7	2.7	66.3
328	212	-do- O'seas	327	+5	4.2	1.6	68.6
289	209	Foreign & Col	289	...	...	1.5	78.7
133	56	-do- Emg Mkts	133	+1	0.2	0.3	...
70	44	-do- Enterprise	70	...	0.4	0.8	...
241	164	-do- Euroos	241	+4	...	0.6	...
141	87	-do- German	141	+3	0.5	0.4	...
340	191	-do- Pacific	339	+1	...	0.8	...
174	116	-do- Smaller	174	+1	1.8	1.3	...
272	145	GT Japan	255	-1	...	0.6	...
180	65	Genl Cons Cap	179	...	...	...	...
123	96	-do- Inc	111	...	...	9.5	11.5
169	115	Govett Amt Smir	169	+1	...	...	...
139	94	-do- Emg Mkts	139	+1	...	...	...
411	184	-do- Oriental	411	+1	0.9	0.3	...
298	207	-do- Strategy	296	...	...	2.9	41.4
423	340	Greenfriar	423	...	...	1.9	63.5
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
151	124	Inv Cap	151	...	...	4.2	29.0
105	77	IAS UK Smllr	105	+2	2.8	3.3	29.3
231	156	Kleinwort Chn	231	+4	5.1	2.8	...
259	176	-do- O'seas	259	+2	3.3	1.6	73.5
142	108	-do-Smlr	139	...	...	3.1	31.7
804	540	Law Debenture	804	+10	18.5	2.9	40.2
217	164	Majedie	217	+1	...	2.9	40.5
310	221	Merchants	307	...	...	4.5	28.7
3349	1850	Merrill Lynch	2987	-43	...	...	...
575	383	Monks Inv Tst	575	+4	...	1.3	72.8
148	105	Morg Gren Inc	146	...	4.5	3.8	...
56	23	Do Warrants	56	...	...	...	...
63	39	Murray Euro	62	...	0.1	0.3	...
23	4	Do Wts	23	...	...	...	...
396	292	Murray Income	385	-1	10.9	3.5	36.8
384	265	-do- Ind	384	+1	11.6	3.8	34.6
490	263	-do- Small	490	+2	...	1.1	...
103	86	-do- S/C Inc	99	...	...	14.9	...
138	73	-do- S/C Cap	138	...	...	...	...
3150	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3150	...	...	4.2	...
160	142	-do- S/C DP	159	...	...	...	...
353	230	-do- Vent	353	+2	...	3.9	28.5
93	68	Nthmbg Inc	92	...	6.7	9.3	17.0
379	249	O'seas Inv Tst	378	...	...	1.0	...
637	285	Pacific Assets	630	+5	1.1	0.2	...
539	187	Do Warrants	527	-1	...	...	...
8675	7680	Personal Assets	8675	+125	190	2.8	51.2
185	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	185	+1	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	124	...	9.2	9.3	12.4
465	350	Robeco	425	...	...	3.0	...
435	346	Rolinco	430	...	...	1.8	...
290	214	St Andrew Inv	290	...	7.5	3.3	39.0
172	131	Scot American	171	...	...	3.4	36.2
359	126	Scot Asian	357	+2	...	0.5	18.1
1050	229	do Warrants	1050	...	...	...	...
93	69	-do- Eastern	90	...	1.5	2.1	59.1
247	183	Scottish	246	-1	4.9	2.5	...
250	176	-do- Mrtge	250	+1	4.0	2.0	64.9
117	71	-do- Value	116	...	1.8	1.9	...
1719	1390	Second Allnce	1719	+4	...	2.8	43.3
101	74	Secs Tst of Scot	100	+1	3.2	4.0	33.2
168	109	Selective Asset	168	...	1.2	0.9	60.4
44	14	Sphere Inv	44	...	3.1	8.8	14.2
193	112	TR Far East	193	+2	...	3.2	36.7
165	126	TR City Of Lon	165	+1	...	3.6	36.0
235	110	TR Pacific	235	+3	0.3	0.2	...
47	17	TR Property	47	...	0.9	2.8	42.7
134	42	TR Tech Inv	134	...	1.7	1.6	49.7
203	146	TR Smlr Cos	203	+1	...	2.3	46.9
393	283	Temple Bar	392	+1	13.2	4.2	29.6
129	69	Thrmtn Asian E	129	...	0.5	0.5	...
81	54	Throgmorton	81	+1	2.3	3.5	33.1
350	363	Throg Dual Cp	338	+2	...	...	...
254	178	USDC Invest	254	+5	4.5	2.2	46.7
119	76	Value Inc Tst	119	...	4.0	4.2	29.9
925	542	Whitbread Inv	925	...	16.5	2.2	53.7
245	181	Witan	245	+1	5.6	2.9	43.0

LEISURE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
486	269	Airtours	485	+8	...	2.4	15.2
64	41	Ald Leis	62	...	...	8.9	13.7
465	194	Anglia TV	428	+1	...	2.7	19.8
103	63	Baldwin	86	...	4.6	6.7	11.7
269	192	Barr & W 'A'	269	...	10.0	4.6	17.4
1245	930	Boosey Hwks	1155	...	22.0	2.4	17.3
158	90	Border TV	149	...	...	3.1	13.3
16	4	Brent Walker	6	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scots	115	...	...	...	...
9	2	Buckingham Int	6	...	...	...	...
232	67	Campari	69	...	...	8.7	15.9
329	171	Capital Radio	328	+4	5.7	2.2	...
947	718	Carlton Comm	946	+6	...	2.5	22.3
248	158	Castle Comm	248	+2	...	4.3	16.4
2910	1615	Central TV	2910	+2	39.0	1.7	31.7
124	61	Chrysalis	115	...	3.2	3.6	...
677	470	Compass Gp	637	+9	...	2.4	18.6
350	175	Eurocamp	232	+1	9.7	5.3	9.6
1180	268	Euro Disney	371	...	...	3.1	...
8	1	Euro Leisure	2	...	...	...	...
38	18	Ex-Lands	35	...	...	1.2	...
390	245	Fairline Boats	308	-2	10.5	4.4	...
378	232	First Leisure	284	+1	6.2	2.8	19.7
680	298	GWR Gp	675	-3	...	1.7	...
246	149	Grampian	229	...	6.5	3.5	15.9
22	4	Greenwich Comm	15	...	...	...	...
109	19	HTV Group	106	+1	...	...	47.1
76	30	Hi-Tec Sports	62	...	...	4.5	...
12	5	Kunick	11	+1	...	...	...
623	405	LWT Hldgs	623	...	...	1.0	28.8
600	327	Man Utd	539	+4	...	4.5	21.8
48	7	Northern	37	...	...	...	...
148	59	Owners Abrd	81	...	3.9	6.0	6.5
77	33	The Pelican Gp	71	...	...	1.9	16.6
178	55	Prism Leisure	178	...	...	2.3	16.5
42	16	Quadrant Grp	38	+2	...	...	...
405	274	Radio Clyde	405	...	...	3.0	...
208	132	Ramsdens (H)	205	...	...	2.7	27.2
553	410	Scot TV	454	-1	10.3	2.9	22.3
68	37	Southern Radio	65	+2	1.2	2.4	...
304	168	Stanley Leisure	304	+4	4.3	1.8	24.0
10	5	Sunleigh	8	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	128	...	3.5	3.4	19.5
420	345	Tanjong	345	...	...	0.5	18.9
2	1	Ticketing	2	...	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenham Hot	97	...	...	2.6	5.1
86	44	Trans World	85	...	...	1.2	31.0
519	274	Ulster TV	518	...	12.0	2.9	15.9
113	62	Vardon	113	...	0.8	0.9	26.7
22	11	Wembley	17	...	...	...	...
234	110	Yorkshire TV	151	...	12.0	9.9	4.6
120	83	Zetters Gp	113	...	8.0	8.8	12.8

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MINING

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5950	1800	Am Gold	5850	+100	...	3.7	20.7
1625	1018	Ang Am Coal	1562	+18	...	5.8	8.3
2987	1125	Ang Am	2862	...	...	2.2	26.2
33	8	Anglo Pac Res	29	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	185	+7	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	33	...	...	...	...
871	233	Buffels	800	+25	...	7.9	7.3
2	1	Bume	2	...	...	...	...
802	546	CRA	802	+12	...	2.5	27.6
43	11	Cluff Res	38	...	...	...	...
1612	762	De Beers	1450	+6	...	3.3	20.0
165	37	Deelkraal	123	+3	...	2.3	14.2
46	7	Doornfontein	40	-15	...	...	...
913	388	Driefontein	862	+25	...	3.7	17.0
788	120	Durban	733	+18	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	145	+10	...	7.4	4.5
175	35	E Rand Prop	92	+5	...	...	...
65	16	Eastern Trans	55	...	...	4.5	11.8
484	117	Elandsrand	408	+13	...	2.9	10.0
1108	392	FS Cons	1083	+47	...	4.4	14.2
80	8	FS Dev	53	+3	...	...	...
1675	725	GFSA	1450	-50	...	3.7	25.1
128	62	Gencor	127	...	...	6.0	14.4
64	35	GM Kalgoorli	56	...	...	2.4	23.1
22	5	Greenwich R 'A'	14	...	...	...	...
197	49	Grootvlei	190	+7	...	6.7	9.4
360	78	Harmony	343	+3	...	...	...
425	87	Hartles	373	+17	...	7.3	14.8
16	8	Inoco	15	...	...	...	...
1010	491	Impala Pln	866	...	...	3.2	29.9
13	6	Kenmare Res	10	...	...	...	...
1177	332	Kinross	1157	+8	...	4.9	...
913	319	Kloof	762	...	...	3.1	10.7
137	25	Leslie	119	+7	...	8.7	...
359	13	Loraine	320	...	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	...
119	80	MIM	119	+3	...	1.9	58.3
1488	820	Minorco	1359	-22	...	2.9	16.0
164	91	Nth Brkn Hill	157	+1	...	3.1	25.8
2812	612	Orange Free	2712	+62	...	6.1	21.9
790	607	RTZ	790	+4	...	3.1	22.3
212	106	Rand Mines	212	...	...	5.1	...
692	150	Randfontein	692	+26	...	5.9	10.4
228	115	Renison	228	+4	...	1.9	23.6
1200	850	Rustnbrg	1187	...	...	2.7	...
725	191	St Helena	670	+16	...	3.6	14.3
2168	475	Southvaal	2125	+19	...	2.6	38.9
119	18	Stilfontein	89	+1	...	6.9	16.3
201	53	Unisel	149	+10	...	4.4	...
1600	1800	Vaal Reefs	1600	+200	...	3.3	11.7
730	154	Welkom	780	+10	...	6.1	21.9
690	26	Western Areas	590	+7	...	4.4	18.9
3150	587	Western Deep	3037	+21	...	2.0	14.8
311	176	Wstrn Mining	311	+1	...	1.5	...
1112	323	Winkels	1058	+9	...	3.6	...
84	49	Zambia Copper	57	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	68	...	...	6.4	22.7

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	233	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
153	78	Appleyard	140	...	...	4.6	...
335	203	Bletchley Mtr	330	+5	...	3.5	16.8
192	120	Bostrom	180	...	6.0	4.2	31.8
468	165	Br Aerospace	403	...	7.3	2.3	...
58	19	Burndene	51	+1	1.7	4.4	...
425	303	Caffyns	413	+8	11.5	3.5	21.9
15	4	Caverdale	13	...	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr	123	...	...	4.1	31.3
36	18	Cook (DC)	35	...	...	3.2	19.9
284	156	Cowie (T)	284	+2	6.6	2.9	21.6
141	86	Dag Motors	135	...	5.7	5.3	24.4
155	102	Davnprt Vern	145	...	...	3.5	18.3
330	155	ERF	276	...	2.0	0.9	...
145	92	European Mtr	138	...	...	3.4	19.4
409	208	Evans Halshaw	408	+1	11.4	3.5	62.9
280	211	FR Group	235	...	...	3.8	10.9
4369	2843	Ford Motor	4318	-75	...	...	...
3759	2143	General Mtr	3675	-50	...	1.4	...
75	38	Gowrings	60	...	2.0	4.2	...
276	85	Henlys	275	+1	3.5	1.6	...
1056	768	Honda Motor	975	-24	...	1.0	...
36	15	Jacks (Wm)	35	...	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	86	...	4.5	6.5	...
176	97	Kwik-Fit	158	...	...	2.8	22.4
448	281	Lex Service	448	+1	...	3.2	24.5
164	85	Lookers	162	...	6.2	4.8	...
198	126	Lucas	194	...	...	4.5	...
27	21	Malaya Grp	25	...	...	...	...
284	224	Pendragon	281	...	...	3.1	21.4
180	101	Perry Gp	175	...	...	5.1	...
190	108	Quicks Group	156	...	...	3.8	19.9
177	96	Rolls-Royce	165	...	...	3.8	...
223	164	T & N	208	+3	...	6.5	39.6
263	163	Trinity Hldgs	263	...	...	2.6	24.6
175	125	Vardy (Reg)	163	...	...	3.2	22.8
253	121	Westland	253	+1	4.5	2.3	...

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
198	108	Adscene	198	...	5.0	3.2	20.3
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
308	290	Blenheim Gp	308	...	...	3.8	11.5
370	275	Briand	367	...	...	4.1	33.1
£116	7775	Daily Mail	£113	...	...	1.7	26.1
£116	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£112	...	...	1.7	26.0
355	210	Dorling Kind	263	+1	...	1.6	23.8
6350	4337	Elsevier	6350	...	...	1.3	21.5
436	322	EMAP	426	+1	...	2.4	26.3
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1450	+7	...	3.3	25.5
264	170	Harrington K	172	...	4.7	3.4	14.1
328	155	Haynes Pub	328	...	...	3.0	18.5
363	334	Hodder H'tine	340	...	5.1	1.9	28.9
140	99	Home Counts	120	...	3.2	5.5	...
161	30	Intl Bus Comm	161	...	...	...	23.3
14	6	Intl Cm & Data	13	...	...	...	...
435	340	Independent	410	...	...	3.1	22.1
580	395	Johnstone Press	551	+3	6.5	1.5	23.8
358	343	Metal Bulletn	338	...	8.2	3.0	23.9
186	88	Mirror Gp	170	...	...	...	...
515	297	News Corp	435	+15	...	0.3	...
301	160	News Intl	274	...	...	0.6	16.9
618	342	Pearson	605	+3	...	2.5	32.9
675	510	Portsmth Sund	620	...	...	1.8	18.5
912	618	Reed Intl	907	-1	...	2.4	39.5
188	98	Southnews	188	+3	...	1.6	34.8
171	90	Sterling Pub	160	...	...	2.4	19.4
488	328	Telegraph	487	...	...	3.1	20.5
835	715	Thomson Corp	795	...	30.1	4.7	39.7
436	313	Trinity Intl	436	+2	9.0	2.6	26.1
39	21	Utd Group	21	...	...	...	...
655	480	Utd Nwspapers	655	+10	...	4.1	18.2

OILS, GAS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	26	-1	...	...	25.3
61	33	Arcon Intl	37	+1	...	...	...
71	41	Aus Oil & Gas	59	...	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	57	...	...	...	...
10	3	Beverley	8	...	...	...	79.5
223	145	Br Borneo	201	...	7.1	4.4	6.1
361	276	British Gas	338	+2	14.2	5.2	16.4
363	225	Br Petroleum	361	+1	8.4	2.9	28.4
2	1	Bula Resources	1	...	...	...	...
834	675	Burmah Castrl	827	+1	...	3.8	19.3
68	32	Cairn Energy	58	...	...	...	8.0
317	223	Calor Gp	316	...	...	4.7	17.2
60	32	Clyde Pet	47	+1	...	...	...
64	27	Coplex Res	30	-1	...	...	...
23	10	Edin Oil & Gas	17	...	...	...	...
521	397	Enterprise	448	+2	...	4.5	24.7
88	26	Exp Co Louis	28	...	...	...	...
30	18	Fairhaven Intl	22	...	...	4.8	8.1
10	4	Fortune	4	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	54	...	1.4	3.2	10.3
48	18	Gt Western Res	31	...	...	...	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
181	104	Hardy O & G	155	...	...	0.8	14.4
46	18	Kelt Energy	40	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	119	+1	...	3.3	24.1
103	63	-do- Units	66	...	9.4	17.1	...
24	2	Mid Scot Res	2	...	...	...	...
56	34	Monument	55	...	...	...	...
9	4	New London	4	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.3	10.0
42	27	Oil Search	41	...	...	...	...
19	11	Petrox	16	...	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	154	+1	...	...	...
29	18	Premier	22	...	...	...	8.3
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	290	Ranger	325	+2	...	5.0	...
7312	5150	Royal Dtch Ft	7125	...	...	4.3	17.7
4500	3600	Schlumberger	3875	...	...	2.1	...
67	47	Seafield	58	...	...	...	...
727	515	Shell	716	-1	22.6	4.0	22.1
203	173	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	18	...	...	...	...
19	6	Viber Grp	14	-1	...	...	...
208	135	Woodside	178	...	...	2.0	...
164	120	AG Holdings	164	...	...	4.0	14.9
419	249	API	418	...	8.2	2.5	...
259	144	Arjo Wiggins	240	...	...	3.4	38.8
543	408	Abbott Mead	540	...	9.5	2.2	28.4
40	13	Aegis Gp	17	+1	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comms	145	...	...	4.2	13.2
20	7	BBB Design	18	...	...	...	...
414	223	Bemrose	414	+6	...	3.5	19.0
30	7	Birkdale	8	...	...	...	...
155	118	Bunzl	145	...	4.0	3.4	21.9
352	257	CIA Gp	352	...	...	1.6	32.2
230	93	Capital Inds	130	...	...	3.5	12.4
92	44	City of Lon	84	...	...	5.2	15.5
304	169	Cropper James	304	...	3.2	1.3	29.4
95	51	Delyn Group	89	...	1.6	2.3	12.0
120	94	Dolphin Pack	105	...	4.5	5.4	25.9
87	42	Dudley Jenkins	77	...	...	5.0	17.5
16	10	Elswick	15	...	...	2.5	17.1
75	41	Fairway Group	73	+2	3.2	5.4	22.1
363	271	Ferguson Intl	363	+3	...	4.3	16.4
137	92	Ferry Pick	137	...	...	5.1	37.0
195	74	Filofax	194	...	...	1.0	25.0
20	10	Fitch	11	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons	141	...	...	4.6	15.9
295	205	Guld Greenless	206	...	8.4	5.2	18.3
41	17	Goodhead	23	...	0.0	0.3	...
88	19	Hunterprint	25	...	...	...	...
185	136	Interurope	161	...	...	6.1	11.8
278	191	Jarvis Porter	273	...	...	3.2	25.5
32	15	Lopex	22	...	...	...	...
38	26	MMI	35	+1	...	...	...
359	175	More O'Ferrall	357	...	13.2	4.6	42.7
133	48	NMC Group	124	...	2.7	2.8	19.1
233	66	Osborne & Little	230	...	...	2.8	25.3
525	455	Portals	513	-3	...	3.6	17.7
3	1	Premier Hlth	2	...	...	...	...
286	159	Quarto	286	...	...	2.5	17.6
347	270	St Ives Gp	322	+2	...	2.1	21.3
186	134	Saatchi	135	...	...	...	...
474	292	Sappi	387	-5	...	8.4	7.4
24	8	Serif	18	...	...	...	...
32	14	Shandwick	22	...	...	...	...
400	294	Smith David	400	...	...	3.3	21.0
295	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	286	-2	...	1.8	6.9
103	45	Somic	103	-3	2.5	3.0	42.2
246	183	Stat-Plus	210	...	8.4	5.0	18.7
28	16	Taylor Nelson	26	...	0.3	1.6	22.0
125	38	VTR	125	...	...	3.8	18.8
106	40	WPP	92	...	...	1.4	3.5
183	62	Wace	182	-1	...	0.7	...
265	203	Waddington (J)	241	...	...	4.1	18.3
418	270	Watmough	410	-5	...	1.8	32.1
7	3	Westport	3	...	...	...	...
34	12	Whinney Mck	29	...	...	...	...
98	55	Wyndeham	98	+3	...	1.9	20.8

PROPERTY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
116	41	Allied Lon	109	...	...	4.0	28.2
47	35	Arcadian	37	+1	...	...	...
16	4	Ascot Hldgs	6	...	...	...	...
135	52	Asda	134	...	...	2.0	14.1
152	88	Avonside	146	...	4.1	3.5	20.4
2637	2062	BCE	2275	...	...	...	...
670	396	Bilton	658	...	18.9	3.6	23.8
83	17	Bourne End	73	...	...	1.7	...
240	150	Bradford	237	...	5.9	3.1	24.0
23	5	Bredero	12	...	...	...	...
449	166	Br Land	435	+2	...	2.1	39.4
250	140	Brixton	235	...	...	4.5	18.6
98	42	Burford	96	...	...	1.7	...
190	99	Cap & Regnl	190	+2	...	0.9	...
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
595	196	Chesterfield	595	...	11.5	2.4	42.6
43	12	City Site Ests	36	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	34	...	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
53	34	Conrad Rbla GS	44	...	...	...	...
1465	818	Daejan	1458	...	...	2.3	18.0
65	9	Dares Estates	9	...	...	...	...
130	53	Debenham Twsn	130	...	...	2.9	25.3
12	4	De Morgan	10	...	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	177	...	3.0	2.1	...
666	263	Derwent Hldgs	664	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	34	...	...	...	...
56	24	Dwyer	56	...	...	...	...
400	170	Estates Agency	400	...	...	2.4	47.5
27	7	Estates Gen	18	...	...	...	...
216	132	Evans Of Leeds	214	...	...	2.8	18.9
35	11	Five Oaks	33	+1	...	...	...
67	30	Fletcher King	66	...	1.0	1.9	43.4
515	276	Frogmore	498	...	...	4.0	24.0
237	97	Grainger	228	...	5.2	2.9	...
233	116	Gt Portland	227	+5	...	4.4	21.7
18	3	Greycoat	18	...	...	...	...
224	101	HK Land	222	...	...	2.9	20.2
84	35	Hambro Cntyw	76	+1	0.5	0.8	...
422	233	Hammerson	415	...	10.0	3.0	42.0
289	127	Helical Bar	286	...	...	2.1	10.7
39	19	Hemingway	36	...	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	60	...	3.7	7.8	15.1
153	133	Jermyn	138	...	...	...	...
801	435	Land Sec	792	+5	23.1	3.7	23.6
114	73	Lon Merch Sec	107	...	4.0	4.7	16.5
22	8	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
565	315	MEPC	548	-2	...	4.6	38.6
9	5	McInerney A	6	...	...	...	...
165	90	McKay Secs	164	...	...	3.5	2.7
7	2	Markheath	2	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	80	...	...	...	...
53	29	Moorfield Es	53	...	...	...	...
1300	775	Mountview	1205	...	22.0	2.3	12.5
176	112	Mucklow (A&J)	176	...	...	4.3	27.4
53	30	Olives Prop	50	...	...	...	...
10	1	Omoly Est	1	...	...	...	0.4
172	88	PSIT	166	...	...	4.1	3.1
361	138	Peel	359	...	...	4.0	1.4
16	4	Power Corp	6	...	...	...	...
48	22	Property Trust	42	...	...	...	12.0
63	33	Raglan	40	...	...	...	...
30	11	Regalian	30	...	...	...	...
140	110	Rowlinson Secs	140	...	...	1.5	1.3
50	16	St Modwen Prp	48	...	...	0.9	2.3
94	39	Savills	92	+1	...	1.4	36.4
112	33	Scot Met	102	+1	...	1.8	...
118	39	Shaftesbury	118	...	...	...	...
15	5	Shield	11	...	...	...	6.0
290	139	Slough Estates	279	...	...	3.6	19.5
101	56	Southend Prop	98	...	...	3.1	...
39	16	Stanhope Prps	25	...	...	...	...
226	114	Tops Ests	225	...	2.1	1.2	80.0
137	79	Town Centre	132	-1	...	3.2	23.6
98	43	Trafford Park	96	-1	...	3.6	22.1
56	17	UK Land	31	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9	...	...	...	...
300	180	Warner	293	...	10.4	4.4	26.8
219	168	Warnford	218	...	7.5	4.4	15.8
8	2	Watergiade	2	...	...	...	...
95	34	Wates	90	...	...	...	...
83	40	Wood John Da	82	...	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
31	11	Automagic	31	+2	...	...	...
200	84	Headlam	200	+2	...	1.9	45.1
500	285	Lambert	315	...	13.2	5.3	7.7
100	44	Pittards	61	...	1.5	3.1	17.4
30	20	Strong & Fisher	22	...	1.0	5.7	6.1
228	89	Stylo	227	...	...	1.2	...
66	53	UK Safety	57	...	...	5.7	1.9

TEXTILES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
521	408	Allied Text	514	+1	12.7	3.1	16.5
69	54	Beckman (A)	57	+1	3.5	7.9	...
41	21	Bolton Gp	28	+1	...	...	...
183	141	Br Mohair	183	+7	8.5	5.8	17.1
53	15	Charnwell	38	...	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Ga	340	...	7.5	2.8	21.2
601	449	Courtauld Text	451	-2	13.9	3.9	12.3
53	24	Cupid	25	...	...	...	...
268	130	Dawson	136	...	...	7.0	10.4
47	22	Drummond	35	...	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel	80	...	...	7.8	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	25	...	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	114	...	4.2	4.7	...
235	156	Hicking Pntcst	235	...	...	2.2	16.7
90	45	Jerome (S)	68	...	...	0.4	...
422	249	Lamont	395	...	12.0	3.8	20.1
515	353	Leeds	506	...	8.5	2.1	...
64	15	Lister	53	...	0.1	0.2	...
122	73	Lyles (S)	89	...	...	4.6	...
215	89	Magellan	209	...	1.4	0.8	...
214	77	Parkland	193	+2	...	1.1	...
102	82	Readicut	97	+1	...	4.4	18.3
66	35	SEET	53	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	130	...	...	5.1	9.0
72	44	Stirling Gp	62	...	1.9	3.8	17.3
51	35	Stoddard	36	+1	...	5.2	33.5
312	290	Tomkinsons	275	...	11.5	5.2	...
41	30	West Trust	37	...	...	9.1	...
250	126	Yorklyde	248	...	...	2.7	16.3

TOBACCOS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
547	407	BAT	547	+8	...	4.4	16.4

TRANSPORT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
545	349	Assoc Br Ports	545	+3	...	2.0	...
1048	707	BAA	1048	+7	...	2.0	26.0
455	249	Br Airways	454	+3	...	3.0	20.3
113	56	Clarkson (H)	108	...	1.7	2.0	...
552	332	Eurotunnel Uts	540	-4	...	...	...
82	44	Fisher (James)	73	...	0.5	0.9	19.6
255	147	IoM Steam	253	...	...	4.2	13.3
30	24	Jacobs (JI)	39	+1	0.5	1.6	...
107	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	99	...	...	1.3	18.1
475	264	Mersey Docks	444	...	...	2.5	30.2
271	181	Nail Express	247	...	...	3.6	25.5
272	218	NFC	231	+1	...	3.8	17.9
343	244	Ocean Group	334	+1	...	5.4	...
73	40	Ocean Wilson	72	+1	4.0	6.9	13.0
676	504	P & O Dfd	660	+5	...	5.8	35.8
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	163	-2	...	4.2	...
637	448	Powell Duffryn	637	+5	...	4.4	20.2
333	117	Seacon	233	...	...	2.0	14.7
163	112	Stagecoach	158	+4	...	3.0	19.2
81	31	TNT	75	+1	...	...	...
818	634	Tibbet & Brtn	815	+2	12.6	1.9	31.3
382	37	Tiphook	56	...	...	...	...
298	227	TDG	284	+2	...	4.2	9.4

WATER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	607	-1	...	4.4	12.1
347	244	Mid Kent Hldgs	345	...	...	3.9	12.7
761	547	Northumbrian	735	-6	...	3.0	8.6
604	431	North West	594	-2	...	4.6	9.8
632	439	Severn Trent	618	...	...	4.4	9.6
685	454	Sthrn Water	682	...	...	4.1	10.8
1605	1235	Sth Staffs	1525	...	48.5	4.0	10.9
657	465	South West	643	-1	...	4.7	10.6
598	454	Thames Water	582	-1	...	4.6	11.4
735	506	Welsh Water	715	-6	...	4.2	7.2
741	536	Wessex Water	738	-2	...	3.8	11.6
630	473	Yorkshire W	619	-1	...	4.4	10.3

Source: Finstat

• USM; a Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102	100	Treas 8½% 1994	100	...	8.48	5.41
109	101	Treas 14½% 1994	101	...	14.27	5.32
107	102	Exch 13½% 1994	102	...	13.15	5.15
105	102	Treas 10% 1994	102	...	9.79	5.04
110	104	Exch 12½% 1994	104	...	11.94	5.01
105	103	Treas 9% 1994	103	...	8.70	5.01
111	107	Treas 12% 1995	107	...	11.19	5.00
97	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97	...	3.06	4.62
109	107	Exch 10¼% 1995	107	...	9.51	5.05
116	119	Treas 12¾% 1995	113	...	11.22	5.05
120	116	Treas 14% 1996	117	...	11.95	5.13
125	121	Treas 15¼% 1996	121	...	12.51	5.19
120	115	Exch 13¼% 1996	117	...	11.25	5.21
112	108	Conv 10% 1996	112	...	8.92	5.37
127	118	Treas 13¼% 1997	121	...	10.89	5.48
114	110	Exch 10½% 1997	114	...	9.20	5.51
110	105	Treas 8¾% 1997	110	...	7.93	5.57
132	127	Exch 15% 1997	131	...	11.40	5.69
116	105	Exch 9¾% 1998	114	+¼	8.51	5.67
106	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	106	+¼	6.83	5.61
106	101	Treas 7¼% B 1998	106	+¼	6.84	5.62
102	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	102	...	6.62	5.20
131	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	131	...	10.66	5.87
140	133	Treas 15½% 1998	140	+¼	11.07	5.74
126	118	Exch 12% 1998	125	+¼	9.54	5.88
116	108	Treas 9½% 1999	115	+¼	8.30	5.81

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	98	Treas 6% 1999	101	+¼	6.05	5.75
128	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	128	+¼	9.57	5.94
121	112	Treas 10½% 1999	121	+¼	8.67	5.86
121	112	Conv 10¼% 1999	121	+¼	8.46	5.92
116	106	Conv 9% 2000	115	+¼	7.77	5.88
136	125	Treas 13% 2000	136	+¼	9.52	6.14
106	97	Treas 7% 2001	105	+¼	6.89	6.03
122	109	Treas 10% 2001	121	+¼	8.22	6.18
123	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	122	+¼	7.94	6.29
113	97	Treas 8% 2003	112	+¼	7.08	6.16
126	109	Treas 10% 2003	126	+¼	7.91	6.30
129	116	Treas 11½% 2001-04	129	+¼	8.91	6.39
85	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	85	-¼	4.09	5.30
104	97	Treas 6¾% 2004	104	+¼	6.46	6.16
125	105	Conv 9½% 2004	124	+¼	7.62	6.30
125	105	Conv 9½% 2005	125	+¼	7.60	6.35
143	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	143	+¼	8.74	6.52
111	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	111	+¼	7.20	6.33
112	94	Treas 7¾% 2006	111	+¼	6.92	6.35
135	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	135	+¼	8.67	6.49
119	97	Treas 8½% 2007	118	+¼	7.17	6.41
151	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	150	+¼	8.94	6.57
124	101	Treas 9% 2008	124	+¼	7.20	6.44

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115	92	Treas 8% 2009	115	+¼	6.96	6.46
126	100	Conv 9% 2011	126	+¼	7.14	6.49
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	126	+¼	7.10	6.48
93	70	Treas 5½% 2008-12	93	+¼	5.90	6.11
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	114	+¼	6.79	6.41
117	93	Treas 8% 2013	116	+¼	6.84	6.46
158	125	Exch 12% 2013-17	158	+¼	7.58	6.66
127	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	127	+¼	6.87	6.47

UNDATED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
53	38	War Ln 3½%	53	+¼	6.49	...
36	27	Treas 2½%	36	+¼	6.76	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136	131	Treas IL 2% 1994	136	...	...	...
204	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	203	...	0.90	1.87
117	109	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	115	...	1.19	1.86
175	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	175	+¼	2.14	2.53
172	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	172	+¼	2.37	2.69
117	105	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	117	+¼	2.39	2.69
183	159	Treas IL 2% 2006	183	+¼	2.47	2.71
167	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	167	+¼	2.65	2.86
174	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	174	+¼	2.71	2.90
145	122	Treas IL 2½% 2013	145	+¼	2.74	2.91
155	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	155	+¼	2.80	2.96
151	126	Treas IL 2½% 2020	151	+¼	2.85	2.99
127	102	Treas IL 2½% 2024	127	+¼	2.85	2.97
127	103	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	127	+¼	2.87	3.00

City celebrates an all-time high on Christmas Eve

STOCK MARKET

CITY speculators spent Christmas Eve busily forecasting that **C E Heath**'s days as an independent company will come to an end early in the New Year.

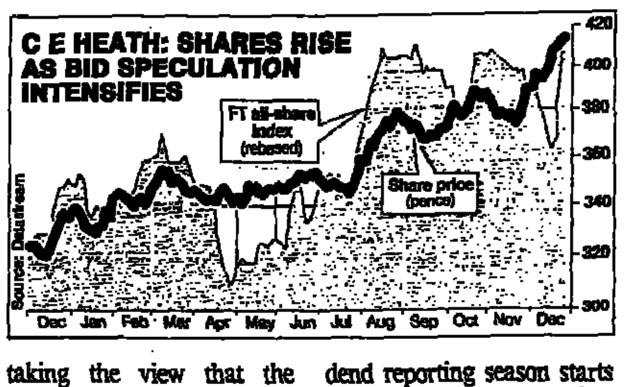
The insurance broker ended the trading session 23p higher at a high of 413p although only 133,000 shares changed hands. The price rose 49p last week, adding £31 million to the group's stock market capitalisation of £263 million. Speculators say this suggests a bid is on the way, possibly from Inchcape, the overseas trader. Last week, Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, gave CE Heath a helping hand with a buy recommendation.

Despite the shortened trading session, there were enough investors around on Christmas Eve to extend the market's record-breaking run. Selective institutional support enabled the FT-SE 100 index to close near its best of the day, 15.8 up at an all-time high of 3,412.3, for a rise on the week of almost 76 points.

The index stands just 88 points shy of the 3,500 year-end total that Nick Knight of Nomura had forecast. On Friday, Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, appeared to be taking a cautious stance on events for 1994, forecasting a year-end target for the index of 3,600.

Dealers reported renewed support for blue chips, which put market-makers, already short of stock, under further pressure. Martin Lupton, head of market-making at Kleinwort Benson, says fund managers are still sitting on plenty of cash and looking forward to a New Year rally and the prospect of an imminent cut in interest rates.

British Gas continued to claw back some of the recent losses caused by the Government's decision to end its monopoly of domestic gas supplies. The price firmed 2p to 338½p as investors began to look at the yield again after taking the view that the shares had been oversold.



The banks shook off nervousness experienced earlier last week to advance. The sector has performed strongly in recent months, with analysts forecasting impressive performances once the dividend reporting season starts in February. There were rises for **Barclays**, 9p to 633p, **Abbey National**, 8p to 496p, **HSBC**, 19p to 910p, **Lloyds**, 14p to 658p, **National Westminster**, 15p to 607p, **Standard Chartered**, 10p to £12.31, and **TSB Group**, 2p to 256p.

The power generators were also in demand, with gains for **National Power**, 8p to 505p, **PowerGen**, 5p to 567p, **Scottish Power**, 4p to 486p, and **Scottish Hydro**, 1p to 477p.

The bargain hunters were out in force among the food retailers, which have performed badly compared with the rest of the market as investors ponder the intensification of the price war and increased competition from the discount chains. **Asda** firmed ½p to 55p, **Argyll**, 1p to 277p, **Kwik Save**, 8p to 592p, **William Low**, 6p to 161p, **William Morrison Supermarkets**, 6p to 107p, **Tesco**, 1p to 212p, while **J Sainsbury** was steady at 438p. The food manufacturers were also sought after, with selective support lifting **Northern Foods**, 5p to 229p, **Dalgety**, 4p to 496p, **Tate & Lyle**, 3p to 395p, **Unigate**, 6p to 362p, and **United Biscuits**, 2p to 359p. **Hillsdown Holdings** continued to respond to a positive note from NatWest Securities, the broker, rising 2p to 163p.

Weir Group advanced 12p at 318p after winning a contract to build a desalination plant in Qatar as part of a consortium. Weir's share of the contract is worth £67 million, after deducting financing costs. But there was bad news for **Fenner Group**, down 7p at 112p, on reports that it had lost a lucrative power transmission contract.

Vodafone, the cellular telephone operator, rose 10p to 592p cheered by reports of the growth in the mobile telephone market. It is calculated that the three operators will have 2 million subscribers between them by the year-end. **Securicor**, which has a stake in Cellnet, also rose 4p to 892p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Demand was low, with no real lead from European bond markets despite continued optimism about a cut in base rates. In mediums, **Treasury 8 per cent 2003** rose £5/32 to £113 1/32, while in longs **Treasury 8¾ per cent 2017** rose a similar amount to £127 3/8.

MICHAEL CLARK

Mitsubishi companies to merge

FROM AFP IN TOKYO

MITSUBISHI Kasei, Japan's biggest chemical manufacturer, and Mitsubishi Petrochemical, an affiliate of Royal Dutch Shell Group, are to merge from October 1994.

The new company expects profits of about Y20 billion (£121 million) in its first full year of operations on projected sales of Y1.18 billion.

Mitsubishi Kasei produces petrochemicals, carbon products and has branched out into biochemicals, pharmaceuticals and electronic materials.

Shell is the biggest shareholder in Mitsubishi Petrochemical, Japan's largest petrochemical concern, with profits forecast at Y1.5 billion in the year to March.

Two Shell affiliates hold a combined stake of 18.3 per cent, while Showa Shell Sekiyu, another affiliate, has a further interest.

Investors give approval for Granada's LWT bid

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE only big City takeover to straddle the holiday break drew a small band of faithful Granada shareholders to the City on Christmas Eve to approve its £600 million bid for London Weekend Television. Investors waved their voting cards in favour of the motion proposed by Alex Bernstein, chairman, and, being in festive mood, they managed a brief round of applause before heading for the public house.

An exhausted Gerry Robinson, chief executive, just managed to keep his eyes open. He is not banking on a quiet Christmas, however, guessing that LWT may fire a few more salvos before the bid is over. "I think it was a rather empty document" he said, referring to LWT's response to the Granada offer. "I think there is more to come."

He was dismissive of LWT's accusation that Granada was a conglomerate of diverse businesses with few apparent synergies. He said: "It was a mistake of LWT to attack us on our record. Television is very much at the heart of what Granada is about."

He predicted that in five years there would be three or four ITV companies — "ourselves, Carlton and MAI and perhaps Ulster. ITV will not be the same in a few years time." He said Granada's intentions had been clear since the group acquired 18 per cent of LWT. "It has been a very straightforward offer. The strengthening of our share price underpins the strength of the bid."

LWT has until January 14 to make any announcements regarding a bid for Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television, part of a widely mooted alliance between LWT, Yorkshire, Tyne Tees and Anglia. Mr Robinson thought it unlikely LWT could structure a deal that would satisfy the rules limiting companies to two franchises.

Diary, page 32



Gerry Robinson on Friday dismissed LWT claims

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND
US $ .... 1.5015 (-0.0010)
German mark .... 2.5473 (-0.0006)
Exchange index .... 81.7 (same)
Bank of England official close (noon)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 .... 3412.3 (+15.8)
Dow Jones .... 3757.72 (-4.47)*
Nikkei Avg .... 17141.11 (-304.63)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 5½%
3-month Interbank 5 5/16-5¼%
US Federal Funds 3 1/16%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.06-3.05%*
Long Bond 6.21%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.5033*	£:$	1.5009
$:DM	1.6935*	£:DM	2.5457
$:SWfr	1.4327*	£:SWfr	2.1589
$:Ffr	5.7690*	£:Ffr	8.6751
$:Yen	110.65*	£:Yen	166.39
£:SDR	n/a	£:ECU	n/a

Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing ($):
AM 386.60 .... PM n/a
Close 386.50-387.00
New York:
Comex 385.55-386.05*

OIL
Brent Crude ..... $13.60* per bbl (Feb)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI: 141.6 Nov (1.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes Thursday's close

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

HSBC	910p (+19p)
Lloyds	658p (+14p)
Bk Leumi UK	375p (+25p)
Barclays	633p (+9p)
Stand Chart	1231p (+10p)
ICI	778p (+10p)
Antofagasta	998p (+10p)
Nobo Group	214p (+10p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	549p (+15p)
Weir	318p (+12p)
Britannic	433p (+13p)
CE Heath	413p (+23p)
Utd Newspapers	655p (+10p)
Compass Group	677p (+9p)
Capita Group	222p (+9p)
Abbey National	496p (+8p)

FALLS:

BICC	393p (-10p)
Takeda Chem	676p (-17p)
Liberty Life	1119p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

VSEL angry at sale of Beverley company

VSEL, the Barrow-in-Furness shipbuilder, reacted angrily on Christmas Eve after Beverley Group, the Bristol engineer, announced that it intended to sell its marine safety couplings arm to Villiers Group for up to £4 million. In an announcement in November, Beverley had said that it was selling the business, Gall Thomson (Marine), to VSEL's Sealand Industries subsidiary for a price of £3.5 million.

In a formal response to the change, VSEL said its directors were "extremely disappointed that the Beverley board has seen fit to overturn the previous agreement with VSEL." VSEL's directors added that they were "reviewing their position on the matter."

Oman seeks price deal

OMAN'S oil minister flew to Yemen yesterday at the start of a non-Opec tour to try to forge a comprehensive production accord to boost prices. Before leaving for neighbouring Yemen, Said Bin Ahmed al-Shanfari said he would also visit Egypt, Syria, Russia, Norway and Britain. He said he would "explain the GCC's decision to officials in these countries and work with them to achieve better joint co-operation between all oil-producing countries". He was referring to an offer by the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council to take output cuts if oil producers, both Opec and non-Opec, agree to a comprehensive accord for "balanced" cuts.

Weir wins contract

WEIR Group's Weir Westgarth subsidiary has been awarded a contract to supply equipment for a desalination and power project in Qatar as part of a European consortium. Weir's share of the contract is worth a total of £67 million after deducting financing costs. It will supply desalination equipment as part of the Ras Abu Fontas B power and desalination project, with desalination capacity of 33 million gallons daily, following an order from the Qatar ministry of electricity and water. The contract will take three years, with financing by a credit arrangement extending over nine years, Weir said.

Property rights issue

SHAREHOLDERS in property company Development Securities, formerly Clayform Properties, applied for almost half of the new shares offered in a rights issue. Valid applications for 48.4 per cent of the shares had been received by the deadline and the rest placed with other investors. The company offered four new shares for every five already held to raise £29.3 million to help pay for two acquisitions: a portfolio of 85 properties from Ethel Austin Properties for £26 million; and Grafton Estates, which has 10 properties, for £18 million. Development Securities shareholders approved the share offer and acquisitions on Friday.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32

NIPSHOT
(b) Only in the phrase *to shoot* or *to play nipshot*, to miss the mark or miss fire, in literal and figurative senses, the force of the combination of *nip* and *shot* is obscure: "Our great hope on Earth, the City of London, has played nipshot: they are speaking of dissolving the Assembly."

PALIMBACCHIUS
(c) In prosody, a metrical foot consisting of two long and one short syllable, dum-dum-di, as in "exported", from the Greek *palin* backwards + *Baccheios*, a reversed Bacchius, di-dum-dum, "a deep hole": "When I hear an English prosodist thus talk of his Iambics, his Trochees, and his Palimbacchics."

DIMEROUS
(a) Consisting of two parts or divisions, in entomology, having two joints, applied to the tarsus of an insect, in botany, having two divisions or members in each whorl, from the Greek *di-* twice + *meros* a part: "Observe the dimerous symmetry of Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea*), the parts of the flower being in twos."

EBRILLADE
(a) In riding and *manège*, the check of the bridle that the horseman gives to the horse, by a jerk of one rein, when it refuses to turn, from the French: "Don't just sit there, bouncing up and down and blubbering, Charlotte. Either fall off, or give Black Rumpole a sharp ebrillade."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rdg8! and Rh4 mating is inevitable.

RECENT ISSUES

Aberforth Split Lvl C (100)	100½	...
Abtrust Lloyds Insce (100)	94	+1
Azlan (230)	262	...
CLM Insce (100)	105	...
Celltech (250)	225	...
Chelsfield (155)	181	+1
DFS Furniture (260)	315	...
Fairbairn Euro Smlr (100)	98	...
Fenchurch (180)	181	+5
Finsbury Undrwrtng Inv	108	...
For & Col Smaller (100)	108½	+½
Gartmore (168)	204	+2
Govett Emerging C	118	...
Govett High Inc (100)	111	...
Harmony Leisure Wts	4	+½
Inspirations (100)	108	...
Kleinwort 2nd Endw (50)	52	...
Litho Supplies (190)	236	...
London Industrial (320)	354	...
Masthead Insce (100)	107	...
Mercury World Mng (100)	105	...
Millgate (40)	40	...
Morgan Grenfl Eqty C (100)	109	...
NM Smllr Aust (100)	103	...
NM Smllr Wts	48	+1
Nelson Hurst (140)	147	...
New London Capital (100)	98	+1
On Demand Info (78)	112	+1
Pilot Inv C (100)	102	...
Premium Trust	98	...
Premium Underwriting	122	+1
Rossmont (10)	11	...
Royal Doulton	230	+½
Securitised End Cont (60)	62	...
Telspec (160)	191	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Banner Homes n/p (89)	26	...
Bemrose n/p (325)	88	...
Bourne End n/p (65)	8	...
Bowthorpe n/p (320)	39	...
Dwyer A n/p (50)	3	...
Heywood Williams n/p (280)	123	+3
Hiclare n/p (36)	2½	...
NFC n/p (195)	31	...
Serif n/p (11)	7	...
Tay Homes n/p (145)	46	...
West Trust n/p (32)	5	...
Wyevale Garden n/p (152)	19	...

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	2,100	Cadbury	396	MEPC	600	Scot Power	713
Abbey Natl	535	Caradon	179	Marks Spr	1,100	Sears	480
Alld-Lyons	375	Carlton Cm	141	NFC	1,700	Svrn Trent	279
Anglian W	26	Coats Vyla	26	NatWst Bk	1,700	Shell Trans	455
Argyll Gp	796	Cm Union	180	Nat Power	542	Siebe	159
Arjo Wiggn	281	Courtaulds	188	Nth Wst W	55	SmKl Bch	1,800
AB Foods	45	Enterpr Oil	243	Nthrn Fds	692	Smith Nph	895
BAA	129	Forte	3,200	P & O	532	Southern Elec	128
BAT Inds	1,500	GRE	204	Pearson	197	Std Chartd	171
BOC	791	GUS	294	PowerGen	416	Sun Allnce	846
BP	1,800	Gen Acc	83	Prudential	1,100	TI Gp	216
BT	943	Gen Elec	2,200	RMC	2	TSB	860
BTR	1,500	Glaxo	908	RTZ	352	Tesco	1,100
Bk of Scot	56	Granada	174	Rank Org	523	Thames W	274
Barclays	705	Grand Met	791	Reckitt Col	113	Thrn EMI	172
Bass	289	Guinness	1,000	Redland	342	Tomkins	942
Blue Circle	328	HSBC	751	Reed Intl	1,000	Unilever	204
Boots	226	Hanson	1,500	Rentokil	435	Utd Bisc	492
Bowater	443	ICI	303	Reuters	1,200	Vodafone	1,900
Brit Aero	1,700	Inchcape	247	Rolls Royce	737	Warburg (SG)	11
Brit Airwys	290	Kingfisher	127	Ryl Ins	681	Wellcome	258
Brit Gas	1,900	Ladbroke	831	Ryl Bk Scot	103	Whitbd 'A'	190
Brit Steel	1,100	Land Secs	380	Sainsbury	328	Wilms Hld	355
Burmah Cast	228	Legal & Gn	137	Schroders	25	Wolseley	43
Cable Wire	1,100	Lloyds Bk	857	Scot & New	433	Zeneca	633

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... Closed
S&P Composite .... Closed

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 17141.11 (-304.63)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 11039.84 (+158.64)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 147.9 (same)

Sydney: AO .... 2089.20 (+20.40)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... Closed

FT 30 share: .... 2557.7 (+8.3)

Brussels:
General .... 7541.09 (+36.27)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2239.13 (-3.89)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... Closed

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1677.01 (+7.05)
FT 500 .... 1782.80 (+5.20)
FT Gold Mines .... 243.1 (+2.6)
FT Fixed Interest .... 131.46 (+0.19)
FT Govt Secs .... 107.19 (+0.17)
Bargains 15425
SEAQ Volume 249.9m
USM (Datastrm) .... 153.77 (+0.24)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 20	January 7	March 24	April 5

Call options were taken out on 23/12/93: Alvis, Aminex, Bardon, Carlton Comm, Cluff Res, Ennex Intl, Ferromet, CE Heath, Intl Business Comm, LIT Pref, YJ Lovell, Nat Home Loan, Premier Cons, Rodime, Saatchi & Saatchi, Tullow Oil.
Puts: Cluff Res, Euro Disney, LIT Pref. Puts & Calls: LASMO.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 66500)	Mar 94	3417.0	3438.0	3415.0	3435.0	2326
	Jun 94	3448.0	3448.0	3448.0	3446.5	1
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 375960)	Mar 94	94.83	94.84	94.82	94.83	2449
	Jun 94	95.01	95.02	95.00	95.02	1025
	Sep 94	95.05	95.06	95.04	95.06	218
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 8567)	Mar 94	96.49	96.51	96.49	96.50	544
	Jun 94	96.17	96.18	96.17	95.18	119
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 717907)	Mar 94	94.54	94.56	94.53	94.55	7198
	Jun 94	95.05	95.07	95.05	95.06	2111
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 108213)	Dec 93				120-16	0
	Mar 94	119-25	119-28	119-22	119-22	3600
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	117.69	117.74	117.67	117.73	492
	Jun 94				116.66	0
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 137769)	Mar 94	101.00	101.09	100.91	100.93	7055
	Jun 94	100.98	101.03	100.98	100.88	45
German Gov Bd Bobl (Previous open interest: 11410)	Mar 94	103.43	103.43	103.39	103.40	25
	Jun 94					0
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 30306)	Mar 94	94.26	94.26	94.26	94.26	285
	Jun 94	94.76	94.77	94.74	94.76	45
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 95230)	Mar 94	96.32	96.38	96.32	96.38	1267
	Jun 94	96.57	96.57	96.57	96.58	50
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 80539)	Mar 94	118.50	118.56	117.75	117.99	4793
	Jun 94				117.89	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 81.7 (day's range 81.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 24	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8499-2.8556	2.8499-2.8534	par-⅛ds	⅛-⅜ds
Brussels	52.95-53.16	52.95-53.06	9-13ds	20-29ds
Copenhagen	9.9370-9.9627	9.9370-9.9590	n/a	n/a
Dublin	1.0510-1.0540	1.0515-1.0538	13-16ds	25-31ds
Frankfurt	2.5440-2.5483	2.5440-2.5473	⅛-⅜ds	⅜-⅝ds
Lisbon	259.75-261.06	259.75-260.39	n/a	n/a
Madrid	208.79-209.49	208.79-209.49	n/a	n/a
Milan	2491.90-2495.90	2491.90-2495.90	5-8ds	16-21ds
Montreal	1.9939-2.0011	1.9939-1.9968	0.30-0.22pr	0.54-0.41pr
New York	1.5002-1.5012	1.5005-1.5012	0.29-0.26pr	0.75-0.71pr
Oslo	11.0380-11.0653	11.0380-11.0610	n/a	n/a
Paris	8.6660-8.6814	8.6691-8.6810	1-1⅜ds	2⅞-3⅛ds
Stockholm	12.3079-12.3480	12.3090-12.3451	n/a	n/a
Tokyo	166.18-166.64	166.37-166.41	½-⅜pr	1⅝-1¼pr
Vienna	17.86-17.92	17.90-17.92	⅜-1⅜ds	1⅛-3⅛ds
Zurich	2.1570-2.1604	2.1574-2.1604	¼pr-par	⅝-⅜pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4974-1.5000
Australia dollar	2.2106-2.2137
Bahrain dinar	0.5595-0.5715
Brazil cruzeiro*	447.14-448.65
Cyprus pound	0.756-0.766
Finland markka	8.447-8.563
Greece drachma	363.0-370.0
Hong Kong dollar	11.5915-11.6007
India rupee	46.63-47.59
Kuwait dinar KD	0.443-0.453
Malaysia ringgit	3.8591-3.8631
Mexico peso	4.58-4.68
New Zealand dollar	2.6832-2.6884
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5695-5.6955
Singapore dollar	2.3911-2.3942
S Africa rand (fin)	6.5893-6.6689
S Africa rand (com)	5.0621-5.0731
U A E dirham	5.4505-5.5745

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4727-1.4738
Austria	11.91-11.92
Belgium (Com)	35.37-35.42
Canada	1.3325-1.3330
Denmark	6.6197-6.6272
France	5.7780-5.7820
Germany	1.6955-1.6965
Hong Kong	7.7225-7.7235
Ireland	1.4320-1.4335
Italy	1665.5-1667.5
Japan	110.82-110.87
Malaysia	2.5710-2.5720
Netherlands	1.9004-1.9009
Norway	7.3675-7.3725
Portugal	173.10-173.35
Singapore	1.5930-1.5940
Spain	139.40-139.60
Sweden	8.2115-8.2215
Switzerland	1.4402-1.4407

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 3¾ Low 1 Week fixed: 4
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth 5 . Sell: 2 mth 5 ; 3 mth: 4⅞ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 3/32-5	5 1/32-5	5 1/32-5	5-4 31/32	
Sterling Money Rates: Interbank:	5⅛-5 1/16	5 3/16-5⅛	5 3/16-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5 5/16-5¼
Overnight: open 3¾, close 1.	5⅛-5 1/16	5 3/16-5⅛	5 3/16-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5 5/16-5¼
Local Authority Deps:	5	n/a	5⅛	5⅛	5
Sterling CDs:	5 3/16-5 1/16	5 3/16-5⅛	5 3/16-5⅛	5 9/32-5 7/32	5⅛-5
Dollar CDs:	unq	—	—	—	—
Building Society CDs:	5 3/16-5 1/16	5 3/16-5⅛	5 3/16-5⅛	5¼-5⅛	5 5/16-5¼

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £780m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.78% received: 40%: Last week: £98.775% received: 55%: Avge rate: £4.8537% last wk £4.8968%: Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3 5/16-3 3/16	3½-3⅜	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark:	6⅜-6⅛	6 5/16-6 3/16	6⅛-6	5 31/32-5 27/32	6½-5½
French Franc:	6⅜-6⅛	6 11/32-6 9/32	6⅛-6⅜	6⅛-6	7¼-6¾
Swiss Franc:	4 13/16-4 11/16	4 5/16-4 3/16	4¼-4⅛	4⅛-3 15/16	4½-3½
Yen:	2 5/16-2 3/16	2 5/16-2 3/16	2⅛-2	2-1⅞	2⅛-1¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS

Bullion: Open $386.50-387.00 Close: $386.50-387.00 High: $386.50-387.00
Low: $386.50-387.00 Krugerrand: $388.00-389.00 (£259.00-260.00)
Sovereigns: Old $91.00-92.00 (£61.00-62.00) New $91.00-92.00 (£61.00-62.00)
Platinum: $385.35 (£256.05) Silver: $5.03 (£3.345) Palladium: $123.85 (£82.30)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon	650	29	47½	56	12	22	36½
(*665)	700	7	24	32	42	49½	65
Argyll	260	23½	31	37	4	9	16
(*270½)	280	10½	21	26	13	18	26½
ASDA	50	6½	9	11½	1½	4	5
(*55)	60	2	4½	6½	7	9	11
Boots	550	37½	52½	61½	5	14½	24
(*579)	600	8	24½	34½	28	37½	48
Br Airways	420	41	55	60½	4½	13½	20
(*454)	460	15½	29½	38	19	29	38½
BP	360	12½	24	31	10	18	24½
(*361)	390	3½	11½	18	31½	37	41½
Br Steel	120	6½	12	16½	4	9	12
(*122½)	130	3	7½	11½	10½	15	17
C & W	500	32½	48	60	7½	17	25½
(*521½)	525	18	33	46½	18½	28½	37
CU	650	19	31	46½	15	31	37
(*652½)	700	3	12	24½	51½	65	69
ICI	750	42	55½	71½	10½	33½	43
(*778)	800	14	28½	47½	34½	61½	70½
Kingfshr	700	52	69	78½	5	16½	28
(*742)	750	18½	38½	50	24½	37	50½
Land Sec	750	50½	65½	74	3½	11½	21½
(*792)	800	15	34	43	21	30	44½
M & S	430	26	37	46½	4½	11	15
(*439½)	460	5	16	25	25	31½	34½
Nat West	600	23	39½	48	13	31½	35
(*607½)	650	4½	15½	26½	46½	64½	69
Sainsbury	420	25½	40½	47½	8	15½	24
(*438)	460	5	18½	28	28	36	45½
Shell	700	30	39½	51	7½	24	31
(*718)	750	6½	19½	29½	36½	55	59
Smkl Bch	390	23	36	47	9½	21½	28½
(*400½)	420	9½	23	34	27	38	45½
Storehse	220	17	25½	30	3½	6½	12
(*236)	240	5	14	18½	13	18	22
Trafalgar	90	7½	13	17½	6	11	13
(*93)	100	3½	7½	13½	13	17	19
Unilever	1200	37	63	83	17	43½	54
(*1215)	1250	13½	37	58	46	71½	82
Zeneca	800	36½	53	69½	15½	37	51
(*819½)	850	13	28	46½	45	67	78½
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	460	26½	33½	43½	17	24	29
(*473½)	500	9	19½	25	43	48	52
Ladbroke	160	16	21½	27	11½	19½	25½
(*163½)	180	8½	13½	18½	24	33	38
Utd Bisc	330	36½	39½	44½	5	12	16
(*359½)	360	16½	21	27½	17	27½	33
Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	1000	62	87½	104	6½	22½	35
(*1048)	1050	28	57	74½	24½	43	57
Thames W	550	39½	51	61	4½	13½	25
(*582)	600	9	23½	33	25½	33	51½
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	500	57½	63	67½	5	14½	21
(*546½)	550	22½	30½	37½	22	37	45½
BTR	360	28½	33	39½	6	14½	18
(*377½)	390	12	17	24½	21	30	34
Br Aero	390	33½	45	58	19	31	38½
(*402½)	420	19	32½	43½	35½	47½	55½
Br Telcm	460	35	48	53	4½	8½	15
(*486)	500	12	21	30	22	26½	—
Cadbury	493	29	36	—	9½	21½	—
(*509½)	542	8½	14	—	37½	51½	—
Guinness	460	45	53	60	8	18	25½
(*490½)	500	17½	30	38½	34	38½	46½
GEC	330	14½	22½	26½	10½	15½	21½
(*351)	360	3½	9	13½	31½	34	40
Hanson	260	18½	21½	25	4	8½	12
(*272½)	280	7	11	15	13	18½	22
LASMO	110	18	23½	27½	7½	12	15½
(*118½)	120	12	18½	23	13	17	20½
Lucas	180	21	24½	29½	5	—	12½
(*193½)	200	8½	14	19	14	19	22½
Pilkingtn	160	23	27	32½	4	6½	9
(*179)	180	9½	15	21½	11½	15	18
Prudential	330	34½	38½	42½	3½	9½	13½
(*357½)	360	14	19	25	14	24	27½
Redland	550	61	68½	74½	7½	20½	26
(*599)	600	28	38	45½	23½	43½	49
Royal Ins	317	27	—	—	8½	—	—
(*332½)	346	11½	—	—	22½	—	—
Tesco	200	18½	24½	27½	6	12	14
(*212)	220	7½	14	17	15½	23½	25
Vodafone	550	62½	79	92	13½	25½	35½
(*592½)	600	33	51½	66	35	49	63
Williams	360	18½	25½	30½	12	21½	25½
(*363½)	390	6½	12½	17½	31	40½	44
Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	460	49	54	61	9	16	22
(*496)	500	24	31	39	27½	34½	40
Amstrad	40	5½	7½	9	4	5½	6½
(*41)	45	3½	5	7	7	8½	9½
Barclays	600	52	62½	73½	18	24½	33½
(*633)	650	26½	36½	48½	43½	49½	58½
Blue Circ	330	38½	45	52	11	17	23
(*355)	360	21	28	36½	24	32	37½
Br Gas	330	23	27½	31½	9½	17	20½
(*338½)	360	8	13	17½	27	35½	38
Dixons	260	28	35½	40½	11	16	22½
(*276)	280	17	24½	30	20½	26	33
Forte	260	17	21½	28	15	22	25½
(*261)	280	8½	13	19½	27½	34	37½
Hillsdwn	160	14	16½	18½	8½	15	18
(*163)	180	6½	8	11	22	29	31
Lonrho	120	16	19½	23½	6½	10	13½
(*129)	130	10½	15	18½	11½	15	19
Sears	120	15	17	19	3½	5½	7
(*129½)	130	8½	11½	14	7½	10½	12
Thrn Emi	1000	49½	71	85	36½	48½	66
(*1009)	1050	27	48	61	66½	76	96
Tomkins	220	21½	27	31	7	10½	14
(*234)	240	12	16	19½	17	20½	25½
TSB	240	25	30	34½	7½	12	16
(*256)	260	13	18½	24	17½	21½	26
Wellcome	650	47½	60½	80½	27½	57½	64
(*650½)	700	26½	42	58½	68	84½	94
Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	700	61½	86	98	37½	53½	67
(*722)	750	37½	62	70	65	79	95
HSBC	900	62½	83	98	56	68½	79
(*910)	950	39	61	76½	85½	97	107½
Reuter	1850	108½	150½	184	91	111½	128½
(*1863½)	1900	82½	124	157½	117½	136	152½
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
R-Royce	150	16	—	—	6	—	—
(*165)	170	6	—	—	16½	—	—
Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	110	16½	23½	29	12½	18½	23½
(*113)	120	12	18½	25	18	24½	29
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	700	25	40½	50½	27	34	47
(*701½)	750	7½	20	30	62	66	78
Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	59	66	72½	7	13	19½
(*505)	500	33	41½	49½	18	28½	35
Scot Pwr	460	37½	48	55	10½	16	25½
(*485½)	500	17	27½	34½	30½	35½	43

FT-SE INDEX (*3411½)

	3300	3350	3400	3450	3500	3550
Calls						
Jan	136	95	59	32	17	8
Feb	158	120	88	59	38	24
Mar	175	138	107	80	58	42
Apr	189	154	124	97	75	57
Jun	217	—	155	—	107	86
Puts						
Jan	12	23	41	68	103	145
Feb	28	40	58	81	112	157
Mar	43	56	76	99	128	164
Apr	54	69	89	114	142	175
Jun	78	—	115	—	167	197

December 24, 1993 Tot: 17565 Call: 8961 Put: 8604 FT-SE Call: 2938 Put: 3539
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: The LCE softs were exceptionally quiet in this abbreviated Christmas Eve trading session. Cocoa was the only market to register any activity, but even that was quiet in relation to the wild moves of the previous week. The base metals were equally quiet, and few expect any significant activity until the New Year, when key international meetings to cut output in zinc and aluminium are convened.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	880-870	Mar	991-990
Mar	926-925	May	1002-1000
May	941-940	Jul	1012-1010
Jul	952-950	Sep	1030-1023
Sep	963-961		
Dec	979-978		Volume: 1745

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1220-1217	Sep	1225-1222
Mar	1235-1230	Nov	1225-1215
May	1229-1228	Jan	1225-1215
Jul	1225-1222		Volume: 248

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR

		Oct	11.80-11.21
Spot: 267.10		Jan	unq
Mar	10.86-10.88	Mar	unq
May	11.11-11.18	May	unq
Jul	11.32-11.40		Volume: 20

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	279.0-78.5
Spot: 284.0		Dec	278.5-78.0
Mar	283.0-82.0	Mar	280.0-78.0
May	285.5-84.0	May	283.0-79.0
Aug	290.0-88.5		Volume: 49

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 23

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	74.74	98.34	124.31
(+/-)	-2.16	+6.58	+2.90
Eng/Wales:	72.28	98.48	123.79
(+/-)	-4.62	+6.19	+2.97
(%)	-94.9	-68.8	-75.0
Scotland:	85.71	97.77	125.25
(+/-)	+8.97	+8.35	+1.32
(%)	+30.4	-67.3	-40.9

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—			Volume: 0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	98.40
Mar	100.25
May	101.50
Jun	102.25
Sep	89.90
	Volume: 169

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	103.70
Mar	105.45
May	107.50
Sep	92.65
Nov	94.90
	Volume: 0

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	133.0
Apr	103.5	103.7
May	119.0	119.9
		Volume: 34

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg)
Jan 61.50-62.00

ICIS-LOR (London 3.30pm 23/12/93): An exercise in book balancing ahead of the holidays resulted in weaker numbers.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.40	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Jan)	13.45	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Feb)	13.60	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	14.50	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	14.80	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	144 (-1)	146 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	142 (-1)	143 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jan	146 (-1)	148 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Feb	146 (-1)	149 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	53 (-1)	55 (n/c)
Naphtha	129 (-1)	132 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Jan	140.50-40.75	Apr	142.75 SLR
Feb	142.00-42.25	May	144.25-44.50
Mar	142.50-42.75	Jun	144.25-44.75
			Vol: 2951

BRENT

Feb	13.64-13.65	May	14.20 BID
Mar	13.87-13.90	Jun	14.45-14.60
Apr	14.00-14.04		Vol: 8338

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Jan	139.50-41.00	Apr	151.00-61.00
Feb	145.00-46.75	May	162.50-63.00
Mar	unq		Vol: 50

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 94	1259	1250	1245
Feb 94	1260	—	—
Apr 94	1297	—	—
Jul 94	1165	—	—

Vol: 39 lots. Open int'st: n/a Index 1221 same

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff
(Official) (Volume prev day)

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1770.0-1777.0	1800.0-1800.5	1455775
Lead ($/tonne)	468.50-469.00	482.50-483.00	299825
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	985.00-985.50	1002.0-1002.5	097625
Tin ($/tonne)	4805.0-4810.0	4855.0-4860.0	20990
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1103.0-1104.0	1122.0-1122.5	720775
Nickel ($/tonne)	5270.0-5275.0	5335.0-5340.0	35070

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THE TIMES FRIDAY DECEMBER 31 1993

EMBER 27 1993

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SCOREBOARD

BBC1

7.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1609534) **7.10 The Little Crooked Christmas Tree** (r) (2408669) **7.35 Pinocchio** (r) (5375263)
8.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (3542350) **8.10 Claymation Christmas Celebration** (r) (7863824) **8.35 The Juggler** (r) (1729805)
9.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (3737176) **9.05 The Legend of Prince Valiant.** (Ceefax) (s) (9689195) **9.30 Why Don't You . . . ?** Ideas for bored youngsters (s) (42331) **10.00 Poddington Peas** (s) (1885398) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (3689911) **10.25 Tales of the Tooth Fairies** (1888485)
10.35 Best of British. Romantic film clips (2769398)
11.00 FILM: Blinky Bill (1992). Animated adventures of a koala bear. Directed by Yoram Gross (s) (34818927)
12.35 Tom and Jerry's Greatest Hits (r) (2170992) **12.55 Regional** news and weather (30710796)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (38851114) **1.05 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (82417114) **1.25 Daffy Duck** (38836805) **1.35 Animal Sanctuary.** John Craven looks at the work of the Birmingham Dogs Home (Ceefax) (s) (20631553)
2.05 FILM: International Velvet (1978). Nanette Newman and Tatum O'Neal star in the sequel to *National Velvet*. Directed by Bryan Forbes. (Ceefax) (47036379)
4.10 Disneytime presented by Sarah Greene from Euro Disney, featuring clips from the latest Disney film *Aladdin*. (Ceefax) (2156737)
4.50 Final Score (8652669)
5.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (4967973)
5.15 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4423060)
5.40 Jim'll Fix It. Sir Jimmy Savile introduces a selection of festive fix-its, including a meeting with Father Christmas for one grateful four-year-old and a special 105th birthday party. (Ceefax) (s) (732553)
6.25 Big Break Christmas Celebrity Special. Jim Davidson hosts a charity edition of the snooker game in which celebrities team up with snooker stars. Bernie Clifton joins Steve Davis, Vicki Michelle partners Stephen Hendry and Tessa Sanderson joins Dennis Taylor. (Ceefax) (s) (979282)
7.00 CHOICE **Lovejoy: The Lost Colony.** (Ceefax) (s) (13602282)
8.35 Last of the Summer Wine. Bill Owen, Peter Sallis and Brian Wilde star in Roy Clarke's amiable comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (212805)
9.05 News with Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (825992)



Pillow talk for Cleese and Curtis (9.25pm)

9.25 FILM: A Fish Called Wanda (1988). Comedy written by and starring John Cleese as a staid barrister who finds himself inexorably drawn to the voluptuous vamp Wanda (Jamie Lee Curtis). With Michael Palin and Kevin Kline. Directed by Charles Crichton. (Ceefax) (44671621)
11.10 HRH The Princess of Wales' Concert of Hope. George Michael stars in this charity event recorded at Wembley Arena on December 1 to commemorate World Aids Day.(s) (711008)
12.40am FILM: Carry On Girls (1973). Sid James and Joan Sims star with the rest of the *Carry On* team in a tired tale of a Women's Liberation Group's opposition to the staging of a beauty contest. Directed by Gerald Thomas. (Ceefax) (1343022) **2.05 Weather** (6227022)

BBC2

7.00 FILM: Mrs Mike (1949, b/w). Romance starring Evelyn Keyes and Dick Powell. Directed by Louis King (52771534)
8.35 FILM: Queen of Spades (1948, b/w). Baroque chiller based on Pushkin's drama. Directed by Thorold Dickinson (9793992)
10.05 Nene Walks The first of four walks along the Nene Valley (1866263) **10.15 Christmas Presence** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6373992)
11.00 FILM: Charade (1963). Black comedy thriller starring Cary Grant as an enigmatic stranger who pursues widow Audrey Hepburn. Directed by Stanley Donen (36725485)
12.55 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams. Musical mayhem (r) (s) (88851534)
1.10 Seven Faces of Everest. Seven climbers who have conquered the summit tell their stories (r). (Ceefax) (6616669)
2.20 The 1993 British Touring Car Championship (3122992) **3.20 Ultra 30 Yachts** (5209945)
4.10 CHOICE **Opera: The Queen of Spades.** (Ceefax) (s) (39432737)
7.00 CHOICE **At Home with Vic and Bob** (306398)
7.05 The Best of Rutland Weekend Television. Highlights from the post-Python comedy series written by Eric Idle (664824) **7.30 Bob's New Hairstyle.** Vic's vintage clips collection (441195)
7.40 Dad's Army Christmas Sketch. A clip from the 1972 Christmas special (421331)
7.55 The Bra Men (r) (790973)
8.00 Meerkats United. Meerkats fiercely defend their territory in the Kalahari desert (r) (Ceefax) (7060)
8.30 Vic and Bob's Comedy Selection Box. A compilation of classic sketches (223911)
8.55 Slade at Christmas (218114)
9.05 Shooting Stars. Celebrity game show (847114)
9.30 Mulligan and O'Hare. A ballad from Reeves and Mortimer's maestros of melody (606114)
9.35 Play for Today: Nuts in May. A camping holiday provides an intense test for the relationship between a man and his timid girlfriend. With Roger Sloman and Alison Steadman (r). (Ceefax) (4861350)
10.55 Vic and Bob Closedown (528805)



Simon Schama's tale of jealousy (11.00pm)

11.00 Seven Deadly Sins: Envy. Simon Schama on a jealous King of France. (Ceefax) (785263)
11.10 FILM: The Year My Voice Broke (1987). Australian drama set in the Sixties about a 15-year-old boy's unrequited love for his childhood girlfriend. Directed by John Duigan. (Ceefax) (398027) **12.50 Weather** (4745765)
12.55am FILM: The Honeymoon Killers (1969, b/w). Shirley Stoler and Tony LoBianco star in this cult film noir about a couple of misfits who form a deadly partnership. Directed by Leonard Kastle. (Ceefax) (685206). Ends at **2.45**

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CHOICE

At Home with Vic and Bob
BBC2, 7.00-11.00pm

Comics Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer host a fascinating night's entertainment mixing new sketches with vintage comedy clips and favourite television programmes from the past. Highlights include the duo's venture into quiz territory with the celebrity showdown *Shooting Stars*, at 9.05pm, and bulletins from the pair's badger *watch from their back garden. Be assured that it is also possible to ignore Vic and Bob altogether by switching on at 8.00pm for the engaging wildlife show, Meerkats United, or at 9.35pm for Mike Leigh's camping comedy, Nuts in May.* The latter is a still brilliant gem first shown in 1976 and featuring Alison Steadman as the earnest Candice Marie and Roger Sloman as her nerdish, systematic husband who soon reveals that there is madness in his method.



Kercheval (back row) joins the clan (BBC1, 7.00pm)

Lovejoy: The Lost Colony
BBC1, 7.00pm

A feature-length Christmas edition of the popular series has the irrepressible Lovejoy (Ian McShane) discovering his long-lost cousins in North Carolina. Ken Kercheval, better known as Cliff Barnes from *Dallas*, does his unhinged bit as the unscrupulous Rutherford Lovejoy and Kate Vernon plays his glamorous sister Mary-John. When the Southern belle steals some Elizabethan relics from an English lord (a star turn from John Gielgud), both Lovejoy and a restless female ghost take an interest. Written by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, the show has some enjoyably offbeat touches, especially when we move to Carolina where the food is incomprehensible and the sheriff reads a magazine called "Guns & Ammo".

Prince Cinders
Channel 4, 7.00pm

A host of familiar voices crop up for this amiable animation based on Babette Cole's unconventional rewriting of the *Cinderella* story. Dexter Fletcher plays the weedy Prince Cinders and Jonathan Ross, Jim Broadbent and Robert Llewellyn have fun as the three ugly brothers. In keeping with the tale's new 20th-century setting, Cinders cannot go to the ball (or rave-up) because his brothers have ruined his jeans in the wash. Enter a scatty fairy (voiced by Jennifer Saunders) and a few dodgy spells later. Cinders is on his way to the disco, albeit changed into a gorilla.

The Queen of Spades
BBC2, 4.10pm

This Glyndebourne Festival production of Tchaikovsky's opera, recorded in July 1992, was given a big thumbs up by this newspaper when it was reviewed by Rodney Milnes. Based on a story by Pushkin and set in St Petersburg at the end of the 18th century, it is the tragic tale of Herman, a young officer who is desperately in love with Lisa, grand-daughter of the old Countess, known as the Queen of Spades because she can always win at cards. Andrew Davis conducts the London Philharmonic in robust good form and there are fine performances from Nancy Gustafson as Lisa, Felicity Palmer as the Countess and Yuri Marusin as the brooding Herman. Directed for the stage by Graham Vick and subsequently for television by Peter Maniura, this is thrilling, chilling entertainment.
Stephanie Billen

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (4252114)
9.25 FILM: Dumbo (1941). Disney's animated classic about a baby elephant with huge ears who is ostracised by the other animals, until he discovers his ears enable him to fly. Directed by Ben Sharpsteen. (Teletext)

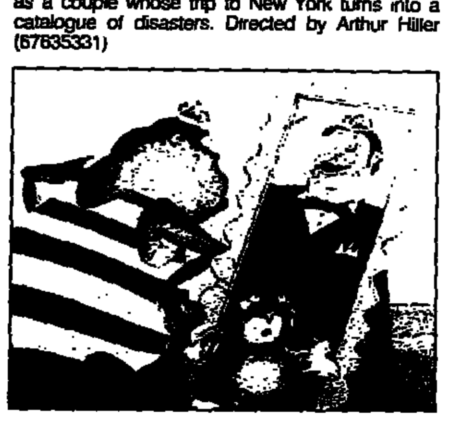


The animals take a seasonal bow (10.35am)

10.35 Old Bear's Christmas Special. Animated series narrated by Anton Rodgers (s) (3524468)
11.10 Home and Away. (Teletext) (5454843) **11.40 Coronation Street** (r). (Teletext) (8537398)
12.10 News (Teletext) and weather (9323244)
12.30 Cliff Richard in Concert Recorded at Wembley during his recent tour (68058)
1.30 FILM: Von Ryan's Express (1965) starring Frank Sinatra as an American colonel who arrives at an Italian prisoner of war camp and promptly alienates his fellow prisoners. However, as they are transported to Berlin by train, he masterminds a daring escape. Directed by Mark Robson (27665896)
3.40 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (3952973)
4.10 FILM: The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) starring Roger Moore as the suave secret agent 007. In this adventure he is assigned the task of finding a solar energy key. Directed by Guy Hamilton. Continues after the news. (Teletext) (s) (2486911)
5.15 News, sport and weather (4971176)
5.35 Film: The Man with the Golden Gun (continued) (7757621)
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . ? Judith Chalmers takes an activity break in Norfolk; and Andrew Jeffrey looks at Menorca from the disabled traveller's viewpoint. (Teletext) (s) (5466)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (466)
8.00 Strike It Lucky Special. Michael Barrymore hosts a special children's edition of the game show. Featuring youngsters representing the Warrington Bomb Victims Appeal, Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. (Teletext) (s) (910350)
8.45 FILM: Police Academy 6 – City Under Siege (1989). Thankfully the last in the series of comedies following the antics of the bungling American policemen. Directed by Peter Bonerz. (Teletext) (s) (88193089)
10.20 News with Libby Wiener. (Teletext) Weather (457060)
10.30 FILM: Pale Rider (1985). Western directed by and starring Clint Eastwood as an enigmatic preacher who elects to help the inhabitants of a mining settlement from attacks by ruthless raiders (90086843)
12.45am The Beat Christmas Cracker with Gary Crowley (s) (520634)
2.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (89732)
3.15 FILM: Third Party Risk (1955, b/w) starring Lloyd Bridges. A songwriter becomes the prime suspect when an old friend of his is murdered. Directed by Daniel Birt (1635867)
4.30 FILM: Out of the Darkness (1985). Children's ghost story. When a family inherits a remote cottage, they discover another occupant a victim of the plague who died 300 years earlier. Directed by John Krish (7512916) **5.40 Cartoon** (2176041)
5.55 ITN Morning News (3430119). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

7.00 Ulysses 31 (r) (2400027)
7.25 Spiff and Hercules. Cartoon cat and dog fights (1160843)
7.45 Dennis. Animated adventures of the mischievous boy and friends (8465263)
8.00 The Big Breakfast. Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin present an hour's worth of clips from this year's show. Includes Sylvester Stallone and Richard Wilson (28460)
10.00 Saved by the Bell. American comedy set in a high school (s) (18447)
10.30 The Lone Ranger (b/w). Vintage western drama with the masked hero (46669)
11.00 The Morning Line. The latest racing news (6553)
11.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series for the under-fives with guest Randy Travis (48669)
12.30 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton introduced by Brough Scott. 12.45 the Bonusphoto Novices' Hurdle; 1.45 the Bonusprint Handicap Hurdle, 2.20 The King George VI Tripleprint Chase; 2.50 the Bonusfilm Wayward Lad Novices' Chase (12156176)
3.15 FILM: Movie Crazy (1932, b/w) starring Harold Lloyd as a small-town boy who wreaks havoc when he is invited to Hollywood for a screen test. Directed by Clyde Bruckman (23251176)
4.50 Big Apple Tinsel: Santa Kitsch. The first of four programmes about all things kitsch in New York. (Teletext) (8629331)
5.05 News and weather (5664089)
5.10 FILM: The Out of Towners (1970). Neil Simon comedy starring Jack Lemmon and Sandy Dennis as a couple whose trip to New York turns into a catalogue of disasters. Directed by Arthur Hiller (67635331)



Cinders contemplates his ball dress (7.00pm)

7.00 CHOICE **Prince Cinders** (s) (3008)
7.30 Mouse Soup. Animated version of Arnold Lobel's book, which tells the story of a wily mouse who manages to talk his way out of becoming a weasel's dinner (468)
8.00 Brookside. The lives and loves of the Liverpudlian neighbours who live in a suburban cul-de-sac. (Teletext) (s) (2756)
8.30 Desmond's: For Love or Money. Comedy series set in a barber's shop (r). (Teletext) (s) (1263)
9.00 FILM: New York Stories (1989) A trilogy of stories set in New York begins with Life Lessons: Nick Nolte and Rosanna Arquette star in this tale of a middle-aged artist and his young lover. Directed by Martin Scorsese; Life Without Zoe: A 12-year-old girl attempts to engineer a reconciliation between her estranged parents. With Heather McComb, Talia Shire and Giancarlo Giannini. Directed by Francis Ford Coppola; Oedipus Wrecks: Directed by and starring Woody Allen as a nervous lawyer haunted by his horrific Jewish mother. With Mia Farrow. (Teletext) (72503089)
11.20 The American Football Big Match. The road to the Superbowl (321534)
12.40am FILM: At the Circus (1939, b/w). The Marx Brothers wreak havoc yet again as they try to rescue a circus from bankruptcy. Directed by Edward Buzzell (3278157)
2.10 LA Law. Kuzak represents the owner of a nudist colony (r) (1507312). Ends at **3.05**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Neale James (FM only) **7.00** Bruno Brookes **10.00** Lynn Parsons **2.00** Steve Edwards in the Afternoon **5.30** Newsbeat **5.35** Evening Session **8.30** Madonna — by Public Demand **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Glitter and Twister (FM only) Noddy Holder recalls the 1970s **12.30-4.00am** Claire Sturgess (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Martin Kelner **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Sarah Kennedy **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Roy Hudd **1.00pm** Everybody Loves Cinderella: A guide to the fairy-tale princess by Simon Godley **2.00** Ed Stewart **4.00** Best of National Music Day **5.00** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **8.00** Alan Dell **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Jazz Score **10.30** Adrian Love **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition with Michele Stephens **9.00** Take Five **9.55** Likely Stories: Rumpleduck, by Bill Taylor **10.30** Sportscall Special **11.45** Sport on Five. Football: at **12.00** Swindon v Arsenal and Southampton v Chelsea, and at **3.00pm** Spurs v Norwich and Aston Villa v Manchester City; Racing from Kempton Park with Peter Bromley **5.00** Sports Report **6.15** Barmy Army: Phil Jupitus presents football songs **7.00** Sportsdesk **7.15** Bedknob and Broomstick, by Mary Norton. Read by Patricia Hodge (1/10) **7.30** Champion Sport, including at **8.00** Everton v Sheffield Wednesday **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin; Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe's People **6.00** News **6.10** British News **6.15** The Learning World **6.30** Heritage **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Gifts Unwrapped **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report Special **9.15** Unconsidered Trifles **9.30** Andy Kershaw **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Heritage **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin News in German **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Jarvis's Frayn **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf. Sir Gawain and the Green Night **2.45** The Multitrack Sessions **3.00** World News **3.15** Red Emperor **4.00** News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.10** British News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** On Screen **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Quote, Unquote **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Jarvis's Frayn **3.00** News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** John Peel **4.00** World News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Susannah Simons **12.00** A Tribute to Maria Callas **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Grieg (Piano Concerto in A minor) **3.00** The Prince's Quest **4.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Close Encounters of a Musical Kind **8.00** The Mikado **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Sarah Ward

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance. Hard-driving rock show **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyle

ANGLIA

As London except: 10.30pm Film: 10 (90086843) **12.45am-2.30** Film: The Omega Man (381393) **2.30** The Beat Christmas Cracker (25409) **4.30** Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon (2176041)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm Cartoons (88845973) **12.40-1.30** Highway To Heaven (3310517) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here (5466) **2.45am** Film: Penny Princess (750461) **4.30** Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon Time (2176041)

GRANADA

As London except: 11.10am-12.10am Film. Headline Hunters (1525195) **12.30pm** Home And Away (71843) **1.00-3.40** Film: Mary Poppins (81496114) **10.30** Film: 10 (90086843) **12.45am-2.30** Film: The Omega Man (381393) **2.30-4.30** The Beat Christmas Cracker (25409) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon Time (2176041)

HTV WEST

As London except: 7.00pm-7.30 Wish You Were Here (5466) **10.30** Film. 10 (90086843) **12.45am-2.30** Film: The Omega Man (381393) **2.30-4.30** The Beat Christmas Cracker (25409) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon Time (2176041)

VARIATIONS

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 4.30am-5.40 Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 4.30am-5.40 Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916)

SCOTTISH

As London except: 11.10am Home And Away (5454843) **11.40-12.10am** Coronation Street (8537398) **12.30pm** Cliff Richard In Concert 1993 (68058) **1.30-3.40** Film: That Darn Cat! (27665896) **7.00-7.30** Lose A Million (5466) **10.30** Film: Pale Rider (90086843) **12.45am** The Beat Christmas Cracker (520634) **2.45** Film: That'll Be The Day (384854) **4.25** Night Shift (59301799) **4.30** America's Top 10 (44565139) **4.55** Out There (89315436) **5.20** Get Stuffed (3506190) **5.25-5.55** Blockbusters

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.45am-2.45 The Beat (520634) **3.15** Film: Fiend Without A Face (1635867) **4.30** Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 7.00pm-7.30 Wish You Were Here (5466) **10.30** Film: 10 (90086843) **12.45am-2.30** Film: The Omega Man (381393) **2.30** The Beat Christmas Cracker (25409) **4.30-5.40** Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 3.15am Film: Fiend Without A Face (1635867) **4.30** Film: Out Of The Darkness (7512916) **5.40-5.55** Cartoon

S4C

Starts: 7.00am Ulysses 31 (1158008) **7.20** Spiff And Hercules (2480263) **7.45** Dennis (9465263) **8.00** The Big Breakfast (28460) **10.00** Saved By The Bell (18447) **10.30** The Lone Ranger (46669) **11.00** The Morning Line (6553) **11.30** Julie (7282) **12.00pm** Slot Meithrin (20621) **12.30** Racing From Kempton (12156176) **3.15** Film: Sunday In New York (147553) **5.15** Pigion Pantomein (3848737) **6.00** Newyddion (102114) **6.10** Pobol Y Cwm (361963) **7.00** BBC Cymru Yn 70: Straeon Y Chwedegau (260355) **7.40** BBC Cymru 70: Ryan A Ronnie (309485) **8.10** BBC Cymru Yn 70: Dewn Y Donledd (411089) **8.30** BBC Cymru Yn 70: Pobol Y Cwm (525331) **9.10** BBC Cymru Yn 70: Bocs O Jocs (145805) **9.45** Newyddion (619832) **10.00** Brookside (21350) **10.30** BBC Cymru 70: Straeon Y Saithdegau (47398) **11.00** BBC Cymru 70. Broc Mor (604378) **12.10am** American Football (8540461)

RTE1

Starts: 9.50am Adventure Bound (7439135) **10.40** Film: The Kid Brother (50454008) **12.05pm** Ninth Ebu Young Soloist Concert (98669282) **1.10** News Headlines & Weather (67237282) **1.15** Racing From Leopardstown (65691992) **3.30** Film: Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea (6049379) **5.25** Play The Game (2481422) **6.00** The Angelus (2191669) **6.01** Six-One (8599447) **6.17** Time Out (2189824) **6.20** TBA (2177089) **6.30** Fleadh '93 (4095447) **7.00** Know Your Sport (9146337) **7.30** Film. Back To The Future 2 (3010678) **9.30** News And Weatherline (9594640) **9.45** Off The Record (7558485) **10.25** Film: The Godfather Part III (46908195) **1.20am** News (4030867)

NETWORK2

Starts: 8.40am Bosco (44232802) **9.10** Sesame Street (85451534) **10.10** Santa And The Three Bears (70228391) **11.10** sport (54686089) **11.30** Beatbox (63116553) **1.30pm** Film: Bush Christmas (15205805) **3.10** The Irish Country House (14224805) **4.10** Ballet - Hobson's Choice (13555263) **6.00** World Cup Reprise (95629805) **6.55** Nuacht (33274350) **7.00** Cursai (84579911) **7.30** Coronation Street (83341824) **8.00** Inspector Morse (84555331) **8.00** News Headlines (84555331) **8.00** Inspector Morse (28087911) **10.00** U2 Rattle And Hum (21424089) **11.45** Film: La Bamba (10115553)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (83583195) **8.40** Lamb Chops (7361331) **9.10** Cartoons (4059553) **9.30** Card Sharks (9824824) **9.55** Concentration (9832843) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7145447) **10.30** Love at First Sight (53973) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (98640) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (77553) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (95447) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (83602) **2.00** The Rhinemann Exchange (60824) **3.00** Another World (6065973) **3.45** DJ Kat (5292911) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8331) **6.00** Games World (2263) **6.30** Paradise Beach (6843) **7.00** Rescue (9060) **7.30** Growing Pains (2027) **8.00** Madonna Concert from Sydney (37447) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (49282) **11.00** The Untouchables (81805) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (86848) **1.00am** Night Court (48515) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (69596)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (60485) (173756) **9.30** The Year in South Africa (86553) **10.30** Myth of the Goddess (51379) **11.30** Review of the Year (55973) **12.30pm** News/Business Report (55195) **1.30** CBS News (58824) **2.30** The Year in South Africa (15404) **4.30** News/Business Report (2840) **5.00** Live at Five (904553) **7.30** Special Report (1598) **9.30** The Year in South Africa (23963) **11.30** CBS News (79843) **12.30am** ABC News (79461) **1.30** Special Report (82954) **2.30** Review of the Year (87312) **3.30** Myth of the Goddess (99157) **4.30** Special Report (91954) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (71119)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (5866669)
10.00 How I Spent My Summer Vacation (1990): A former accountant becomes the owner of a summer camp (99263)
12.00 Survive the Savage Sea (1992): Fact-based drama about a shipwrecked American family. With Robert Urich (74027)
2.00pm Mannequin on the Move (1991): William Ragsdale falls in love with a shop dummy, played by Kristy Swanson (30534)
4.00 Rock-a-Doodle (1991): A rooster becomes a rock 'n' roll star (22309282)
5.50 Suburban Commando (1991): Alien Hulk Hogan lands in the suburbs (26977379)
7.30 Xposure: Film news (7195)
8.00 Hudson Hawk (1991): Bruce Willis tries to commit the crime of the century with Danny Aiello's help (23256027)
9.40 UK Top Ten (851602)
10.00 Hard to Kill (1990): Steven Seagal awakens from a coma and seeks revenge for the murder of his wife and family (907640)
11.40 Quick Change (1990): Bill Murray and Geena Davis rob a bank (133466)
1.10am The Pamela Principle (1992): A designer has an affair (951577)
2.50 A Girl to Kill For (1989): A teenage boy is seduced into a life of crime (1836916)
4.20 How I Spent My Summer Vacation (as 10am) (1259664) Ends at **5.45**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

8.00pm A Shot in the Dark (1964): Peter Sellers, as Inspector Clouseau, believes that Elke Sommer is innocent (19280)
8.00 The Hot Rock (1972): Frantic satire with Robert Redford and George Segal as cat burglars hunting a precious gem (13805)
10.00 An American Werewolf in London (1981): David Naughton risks being turned into a werewolf (574350). Ends at **11.40**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Felix the Cat — The Movie (1990): Feline cartoon adventure (8771621)
7.25 The Call of the Wild: Animated version of Jack London's story (9525689)
8.20 Big Ideas. A boy discovers the cause of pollution in a local bay (44822534)
10.00 Columbo: Bird in the Hand (1991): The shambling detective, Peter Falk, investigates a hit-and-run accident (87605)
12.00 Sleeping Beauty: Morgan Fairchild stars in this version of the fairy-tale (72669)
2.00pm The End of the Golden Weather (1991): Moving New Zealand drama about the friendship between a boy and a mentally retarded man (36176)
4.00 The Story Lady (1990): Jessica Tandy loses creative control of her story-telling television programme (1805)
6.00 Not of This World (1991). Spoof sci-fi tale about an alien monster terrorising a sleepy American town (41640)
8.00 Blue Ice (1992): Michael Caine meets the American ambassador's wife and becomes embroiled in murder (53485)
10.00 Sleeping With the Enemy (1991): Battered wife Julia Roberts fakes her own death to escape her husband (305282)
11.40 Dance with Death (1991): A reporter investigating a serial killer goes undercover as a stripper in a sleazy club (131008)
1.10am Carolina Skeletons (1991): Louis Gossett Jr tries to clear the name of his younger brother (968867)
2.45 Deadly Intentions . . . Again? (1991): A surgeon jailed for murdering his first wife is tempted to kill his second (941886)
4.25-5.55 Not of This World (as 6pm) (2194664)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Prime Bodies (30195) **7.30** Red Line (58485) **8.30** High Five (58669) **9.00** Prime Bodies (30821) **9.30** Sportraits (74553) **10.00** The Big League (61089) **12.00** FA Football: Manchester Utd v Blackburn Rovers (89973) **2.00pm** Sport the Difference (80486) **3.00** Golf Special (97263) **5.00** White Water Rafting (1824) **5.30** Trucks 'n' Tractor Power (7350) **6.00** Soccer News (637485) **6.15** WWF (319911) **7.00** Football: Everton v Sheffield Wednesday (11761485) **10.15** Soccer News (716404) **10.30** Goal (37534) **11.00** Superbouts (49843) **12.00-2.00am** Football (as 7pm) (97732)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (44398) **8.00** Figure Skating (12391) **9.00** Synchro Swimming (93242) **10.00** Roller Skating (33282) **11.00** Free Climbing World Cup (20718) **12.00** Motorsport Report (59244) **1.00pm** Triathlon Ironman (43701) **2.30** Live Ice Hockey Spengler Cup (895331) **5.00** Eurofun (6992) **5.30** Free Style Skiing World Cup (59640) **6.30** News (3911) **7.00** Paris-Dakar Rally (93027) **8.00** American Stock Car Racing (79447) **9.00** Boxing (82911) **10.00** Eurogoals (92398) **11.00** Billiards (34911) **12.00-12.30am** News (99436)

UK GOLD

7.00am GP (7612718) **7.30** Neighbours (7624553) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2768737) **8.30** EastEnders (2767008) **9.00** The Bill (2741060) **9.30** Nanny (7461963) **10.30** All Creatures Great and Small (71971669) **12.10pm** Sons and Daughters (37647805) **12.35** Neighbours (66319701) **1.00** EastEnders (7611089) **1.30** The Bill (8141282) **2.00** Bergerac (8933398) **4.00** Dallas (7992447) **5.00** Dynasty (4695176) **6.00** Neighbours (7888244) **6.30** EastEnders (7802824) **7.00** 'Allo, 'Allo (2429553) **7.55** Bread (4125602) **9.15** Are You Being Served (6970992) **9.50** George and Mildred (9654824) **10.20** The Bill (5351350) **10.50** Dr Who: The Android Invasion (6123447) **11.20** Top of the Pops (4599379) **12.10am** FILM: A Man Alone (1955): Ray Milland western (3739190) **1.50-2.30** Video Bites (3134138)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Jack in the Box (35737) **7.00** RatKen II (91805) **9.00** T-Rex (87553) **9.30** Beakman (14195) **10.00** Witches (84263) **10.30** Captain N — The Games Master (83737) **11.00** You Can't Do That on Television (96307) **11.30** Ghostbusters (55076) **12.00** Fame (88878) **1.00pm** California Raisins (94992) **1.30** Round the Bend (17282) **2.00** Ironman (8094) **2.30** Finder (6808) **3.00** Pigs (8789263) **3.25** RatKen II (2972756) **3.30** Ovide (5911) **4.00** Charlie Brown and Snoopy (1718) **4.30-5.00** Emlyn's Moon (4682)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Dawn Patrol (38737) **7.30** Guts (17244) **8.00** Get the Picture (48640) **8.30** Fraggle Rock (47911) **9.00** The New Adventures of Speed Racer (38263) **9.30** The Wild Side Show (72195) **10.00** Janosch's Dream (10909) **10.30** The World of David the Gnome (34447) **11.00** Sharon, Lois and Brahm's Elephant Show (84027) **11.30** Eureeka's Castle (13911) **12.30pm** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (1193350) **4.00** Capitol Critters (5756) **4.30** Speed Racer (4640) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (9466) **5.30** Get the Picture (5962) **6.00** Guts (2805) **6.30-7.00** Welcome Freshmen (5485)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Earthfile (7809737) **4.30** Orang-Utan (7899621) **5.00** Big City Metro (4607911) **5.30** Go Fishing (7889973) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (6510843) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4998060) **7.00** The Extremists (4694447) **7.30** Anthony Steward (7889350) **8.00** Wildside (8812805) **9.00** Terra X: America's Oldest Civilisation (7988973) **9.30** Pacifica (8137089) **10.00** China Run (8835756) **11.00** Call of the Sea (3065602) **11.55-12.00** Only in Hollywood (5387843)

BRAVO

12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (2756592) **12.30pm** FILM: Shake, Rattle and Rock (1956, b/w). Parents try to quash rock and roll music (29576534) **1.45** FILM: Dunkirk (1958, b/w): Story of the British rescue operation during the Second World War. With John Mills (90000824) **4.00** The Flying Nun (7898263) **4.30** My Three Sons (7892447) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (4801737) **5.30** The Donny and Marie Show (7816027) **6.00** I Spy (8152398) **7.00** Cannon (8923911) **8.00** FILM: Some Came Running (1959): Frank Sinatra returns from the war and embarks on a journey of self-discovery. With Shirley MacLaine and Dean Martin (40459282) **10.15** FILM: Blood Beast Terror (1968): An entomologist creates giant vampire moths (70658176) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (2867060)

UK LIVING

7.00am Jayne and Friends (5945027) **8.00** Fame, Fortune and Romance (3800701) **8.30** Living Daylights (3708756) **8.45** Yoga (3796911) **9.00** Divorce Court (6250422) **9.30** Hot Topics (8120843) **10.00** Health UK (3635447) **10.30** Living Extra (1596806) **11.00** On the House (4553534) **11.30** Delia Smith's Cookery Course 2 (4554263) **12.00** Practical Living (27158398) **12.15pm** Kilroy (1893843) **1.00** Crosswits (2844824) **1.30** Infatuation (8190602) **2.00** Days of Our Lives (3637176) **3.00** Agony Hour (4565379) **4.00** Crosswits (8070468) **4.30** Infatuation (6175832) **5.00** Jayne and Friends (6353114) **6.00** Doctor Ruth? (1325535) **6.30** Masterchef 1991 (7620927) **7.00** Agony Hour (6824535) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (4524355) **9.00** FILM: Touched by Love (1980): A girl with cerebral palsy writes to Elvis Presley. With Deborah Raffin, Michael Learned (1674832) **11.00** Divorce Court (1964840) **11.20** Fame and Fortune (7269244) **11.30** Dr Ruth (3625331) **12.00-1.00am** Days of Our Lives (5962935)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Santa's First Christmas (1466) **5.30** A Christmas Story (36398) **6.30** Catchphrase (2447) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (1602) **7.30** All Clued Up (1331) **8.00** Remington Steele (15263) **9.00** Neon Rider (35027) **10.00** WKRP In Cincinnati (75718) **10.30** The Bob Newhart Show (84466) **11.00** Newhart (96008) **11.30** Mary Tyler Moore (60447) **12.00-1.00am** Lou Grant (39732)

MTV

6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (564244) **9.00** VJ Ingo (225843) **12.00** Greatest Hits (88896) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (454008) **3.30** The Report (6426911) **3.45** At the Movies (6421486) **4.00** News (5604718) **4.15** 3 from 1 (5827669) **4.30** The Grind (2060) **5.00** Hit List UK (80640) **7.00** News — Year End Edition (69783) **8.00** Music Non-Stop (17621) **9.00** Greatest Hits (37485) **10.00** The Report (183973) **10.15** At the Movies (111756) **10.30** News (972602) **10.45** 3 from 1 (800485) **11.00** Rock Block (47282) **1.00am** VJ Marina (74157) **2.00-6.00** Videos (4770472)

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (22263) **7.00** Regional News (99447) **7.30** Asian Morning (65911) **9.00** Hasar (45602) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (221027) **1.00pm** Mustakim (98718) **1.30** Hindi FILM: Lakin (138843) **4.30** Kiddie Time (7756) **5.00-6.00** TVA and You (7027) **7.00** Face to Face (9602) **8.00** English News (339599) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Sanam Bewafaa (59902447) **11.15** Cheena Mock (768008) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (5736864) **1.25** Sight and Sound (18834515)

TNT

Theme: Sydney Greenstreet Birthday Tribute
7.00pm Between Two Worlds (1944, b/w): Passengers on a luxury liner discover that they are dead (42203008)
9.05 The Conspirators (1944, b/w): Second World War spy drama with Hedy Lamarr and Paul Henried (47599534)
11.00 Pillow to Post (1945, b/w): A saleswoman pretends to be married. With Ida Lupino and William Prince (91865992)
12.45am Living in a Big Way (1947, b/w): A veteran faces marital strife when he returns home. With Gene Kelly (55003393)
2.45 The Extraordinary Seaman (1969): Four seamen meet a ghost. With David Niven, Faye Dunaway and Alan Alda (80635948). Ends at **5.00**

CNN

Twenty-four hour news

CMT

Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC

Home shopping channel

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Praetorius (Nun komm der Heiden Heiland); Tchaikovsky (Variations on a Rococo Theme); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in C sharp, 48 Bk I); Marcello (Oboe Concerto No 2 in C minor); Bach (Preludes and Fugues in C sharp minor and D, 48 Bk I); Dvořák (Overture, In Nature's Realm)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Peter Kemp introduces music by Johann Strauss, father, including his waltz, *Homage to Queen Victoria*
10.00 Musical Encounters: Liszt (Der Nächtliche Zug); Schubert (Fantasy in C, D760, Wanderer); Liszt (Jeanne d'Arc au bucher); Bach (Preludes and Fugues in D minor and E flat, 48 Bk I); Liszt, orch Tchaikovsky (Es war ein König in Thule); Liszt (Es war ein König in Thule); Liszt, orch Tchaikovsky (Concerto in the Hungarian Style); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in D sharp minor, 48 Bk I); Mozart (Adagio and Fugue in D minor, K404a No 1); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in G, 48 Bk I); Liszt (Mephisto Waltz No 1)
12.00 Angles on Puccini: John Wells talks to James Naughtie about *Manon Lescaut* (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 Original Mahler and Schumann: Thomas Hampson, baritone, and David Lutz, piano, perform Mahler's Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen, including Schumann's first thoughts on his cycle *Dichterliebe*
2.20 Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra: Pierre Boulez conducts Bartók (The Miraculous Mandarin); Ravel (Une barque sur l'océan; Alborada del gracioso; Rapsodie espagnole; Boléro)
3.45 Music for Organ: Richard Coulson plays French organ music. Corrette (Magnificat du 3 et 4 ton); Balbastre (Noël, Comment tu oze petite Rose); Couperin (Gloria, Messe pour les Convents); Jean-François Dandrieu (Noël, A minuit fut fait un reveil); Pierre Dandrieu (Noël, Quand le sauveur Jésus-Christ)
4.30 Time and Silence: The final part of Brian Morton's report on Polish jazz since 1955 considers new players
5.00 A Musician's Musician: Stephen Kovacevich talks to Stephen Plaistow about the pianist Sergei Rachmaninov, and introduces some of his recordings. Schumann (Carnaval); Chopin (Piano Sonata No 2 in B flat minor, Op 35); Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 1 in F sharp minor); Strauss, arr Tausig (Man lebt nur einmal)
7.00 A Most Disreputable Profession: John Rosselli presents the first of six programmes on the history of singing opera for a living
7.30 Cinderella: The Welsh National Opera Chorus and Orchestra under Patrick Fournillier performs Massenet's *Cendrillon*
10.05 Haydn and Hindemith: Richard McMahon plays Hindemith (Piano Sonata No 2 in G); Haydn (Piano Sonata in E flat, HXVI 52)
10.45 Mixing It, with Robert Sandall and Mark Russell
11.30 Music Restored: Catherine Bott, soprano, and Fretwork perform music to celebrate the achievements of the Elizabethan and Jacobean composer William Byrd
12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.40** On Yer Bike, Schweik! by Eric Davidson. Michael Williams reads the first of five wartime tales **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with Melvyn Bragg, Suzanne Moore, Germaine Greer, Douglas Adams and Anthony Howard
9.45 Down Your Ear: Sonic landscapes, created by Armando Iannucci
10.00-10.30 Questions of Taste (FM only): Chris Kelly returns with the food and drink quiz
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Malachi. Fiona Shaw reads the last book of the Old Testament
10.30 The Village: Two years in the lives of the residents of Bentley in Hampshire (r)
11.00 News; Locate and Cement: Nick Baker tracks down the authors of instruction manuals
11.30 Murder at the Vicarage: See Choice
12.00 News; That's What Friends Are For: Meera Syal examines friendships forged against the odds. The first of five programmes features South Africans Bishop Trevor Huddleston and musician Hugh Masekela
12.25pm My Music: Steve Race chairs the musical panel game **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Christmas at the Ritz: Brian Sibley's *Hit the Heights!* is a glittering review from the 1920s, featuring songs and sketches from Noël Coward, Cole Porter and Ivor Novello
3.30 Ad Lib: Robert Robinson talks to railwaymen (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Going Back: Tanya Matthews was born Tatiana Svetlova. In 1944 she married a British journalist and left the Soviet Union (r)
4.45 What a Difference a Day Makes: Monday (3/7)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 News Quiz of the Year (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. See Choice
8.56 Short Story: Not So Tiny Tim, by John Mortimer
9.15 Suite Hollywood: Film critic Philip French introduces poetry from the movies
9.45 The Rush: John Wilson talks to football manager Bobby Gould, whose job is only secure when his team is winning. Recorded just days before his resignation from Coventry City **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Misha Glenny
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Bel Ami, by Guy de Maupassant. Read by Alex Jennings (11/12)
11.00 You Heard It Here First: Second Thoughts. James Bolam and Lynda Bellingham star in a *Marriage of Convenience* (r)
11.30 Play As I Please: Jazz trumpeter Humphrey Lyttelton talks to June Knox-Mawer (1/4)
12.00-12.43 News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

Murder at the Vicarage. *Radio 4, 11.30am.*
The guest list for the vicar's wife's tea-and-scandal party includes "that terrible Miss Marple — the worse cat in the village". Thus did the sleuthing spinster enter the Agatha Christie canon in 1930, and we all know what a giant oak that little acorn was to grow into. In Michael Bakewell's serialisation of Christie's fifty-fifth novel June Whitfield plays Jane Marple. She is better known as a comedy actress, but Miss Marple's mantle already drapes comfortably around her shoulders in episode one.

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*
How many more adaptations can Robert Louis Stevenson's tale of good and evil take? Plenty, provided they contain such defensible innovations as Robert Forrest's. He shifts the action from London to Edinburgh and in that city's grim living (and dying) conditions finds the filthy soil in which Hyde's evil can grow. But Forrest's most startling departure is to give Alexander Morton's Jekyll and Hyde an inner voice (that of Tom Fleming), half-devil, half-angel. Now, why didn't RLS think of that?
Peter Davalle

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN: MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

SWITCHED ON 30

INVESTORS APPROVE GRANADA'S £600M BID FOR LWT

BUSINESS

STOCK MARKET 30

CITY CELEBRATES ALL-TIME HIGH ON CHRISTMAS EVE

MONDAY DECEMBER 27 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR ROBERT BALLANTYNE

Buy-back at Optare rescues 350 jobs

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MANAGERS at Optare, the Leeds bus-maker, have completed a buy-back of the company in a move that safeguards 350 jobs.

The future of Optare, which produces about 300 buses a year and accounts for a quarter of the UK market, had been uncertain since the collapse of United Bus, its Dutch parent, in October.

The company had continued to trade normally while directors negotiated the purchase of the company from the Dutch receiver of United Bus.

Russell Richardson, managing director, said: "It's been a rough time all round, but we have come through it very well and we are looking forward to the future."

He praised the commitment of Optare's employees, banks, customers and suppliers during the period since the collapse of United Bus.

The company said it had a substantial forward order book for buses and coaches, and announced that it would be extending its product range after the buy-back, with the introduction of additional full-size, single-deck models.

United's financing difficulties appear to have been compounded by the collapse earlier this year of DAF, which had a 35 per cent stake in the company.

Optare, previously named Charles H Roe, was first revived by Mr Richardson and his colleagues after they bought the assets from British Leyland in 1985.

The company has many continental European contacts, which the management hopes will continue to provide orders.



Richardson: rough time



DENZIL McNEELANCE

Senior Salvation Army officers believe uncertainty over the case is causing discord in the ranks and raising doubts in the minds of donors

Salvation Army fears fraud enquiry will hit cash appeal

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Salvation Army is becoming increasingly concerned that a continuing investigation by the Charity Commissioners into a £6 million fraud perpetrated on army funds could damage its crucial Door Knock appeal in February.

Senior officers believe that the continuing uncertainty surrounding the case is raising doubts in the minds of donors about how their money is handled and is also affecting staff morale.

It was in February this year, right in the middle of the annual appeal month, that the Salvation Army, which is the largest provider of social services in the UK after the Government, announced that it had fallen victim to a sophisticated fraud.

To date, only £500,000 has been recovered. However, Slaughter & May, the solicitor acting on behalf of the Salvation Army, has traced assets held within the UK as well as in Germany. The Netherlands and America, where an expensive property in Malibu has been identified.

Funds raised in the Door Knock appeal are used to provide additional services over the Christmas holiday period. Salvation Army officers also give part of February's salary to the appeal.

A spokeswoman for the Salvation Army said: "Christmas is a time when our resources are stretched to the utmost limit. On top of the army's vast social welfare programme, it suddenly has to come up with seasonal extras for more than 1,000 centres right across the country.

"We provide Christmas lunches for the elderly, parties and toys for underprivileged children and general help to hard-up families. It is enormously demanding on finances, and if we have a poor annual Door Knock appeal, we would have to cut back next year."

Officers participating in this year's (1993) Door Knock appeal received a mixed reception on the doorsteps following news of the fraud.

Some donors were sympathetic, but others refused to give after hearing of the loss of the funds. Immediately after the revelation, the army commissioned a report by Coopers & Lybrand, the accountant, into the affair, which was passed to the Charity Commissioners in April.

Under the 1992 Charities Act, the Charity Commissioners, who have much wider ranging powers over the UK's 172,000 charities than previously, are still investigating the Salvation Army's case. A spokeswoman for the Charity Commissioners said: "We have no idea when the report will be published."

The army has dismissed Colonel Grenville Burn and moved the top three officers, including John Larsson, UK Territorial Commander Commissioner, to other posts.

The case is by far the largest enquiry currently being undertaken by the Charity Commissioners, who can now call on an investigation department staffed by 55 people, and their report is certain to cause a stir when it is published. It will contain a number of key recommendations for checks and balances to prevent a recurrence.

The Metropolitan and City Police Company Fraud Department is also investigating the Salvation Army case. A senior officer on the squad described the case as complex. "Our enquiries will be continuing for some time, and no charges are contemplated yet."



Larsson: moved

Booming stock markets give boost to bonuses

BY PATRICIA TEHAN AND MICHAEL CLARK

SHARES closed at or near record closing highs around the world on Christmas Eve, bringing the chance of record bonuses closer for dealers in the main markets of London and New York.

The London stock market extended its record-breaking run in the shortened trading session on Christmas Eve. Share prices raced ahead in thin trading, with hopes of a cut in interest rates soon continuing to fuel investors.

The FT-SE 100 index ended on Friday near its best of the day in spite of the closure of Wall Street and most of the European bourses. It ended 15.8 points up, at an all-time closing high of 3,412.3, a rise on the week of almost 76 points.

In Hong Kong on Friday, the Hang Seng index climbed above 11,000 points for the first time. In Frankfurt on Thursday, the the Dax closed at a record 2,222.84.

Although market-led bonuses are biggest for American players, London branches of US banks are benefiting. Goldman Sachs, the New York-based investment bank, is paying generous bonuses to staff in London.

Last month, it emerged that 70 Goldman executives, including 26 partners, are to receive at least $1 million each. Goldman's 161 partners, 26 of whom are in London, will all receive a minimum profit share of $5 million this year.

Those below the level of partner have been told they will get annual bonuses equal to at least 30 per cent of basic pay. Salomon Brothers said it would pay high bonuses in London. Most executives are thought to have doubled their salaries. Top performers are believed to have been told they will get in excess of $1 million.

Staff at Smith New Court are feeling confident of receiving 100 per cent bonuses after enjoying a massive turnround in fortunes this year, fuelled by a surging London stock market. The securities firm acknowledges that markets have been kind, but SNC has also benefited from its exposure to the world's booming smaller markets.

SNC has built up a strong presence in Southeast Asian markets and is planning its next phase of expansion into China and the Indian subcontinent.

SNC shares have risen by 290 per cent this year, making SNC the best-performing stock of the top 500 companies on the stock market.

Although SNC does not pay bonuses until June, after the May year-end, Michael Marks, chief executive, has said that if current trends continued, the bonuses are likely to be attractive. In the first half year, SNC recorded a 367 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £31.1 million. Mr Marks said markets had been kind to everybody in the business.

UBS is also thought likely to pay 100 per cent bonuses. Cazenove, the London broker, is understood to have declared an 80 per cent bonus for the third quarter of 1993.

Stock market report, page 30

Big earners back on Wall St

HIGH earners are returning to Wall Street, but the class of '94 is a different breed to the Eighties' crowd (Philip Robinson writes from New York).

This year's young brokers are the richest since 1989 with base salaries of $50,000-$200,000, bolstered by bonuses for traders, and those in bids and deals, of $2 million-$5 million. Windle Priem, of Korn Ferry International, the recruitment agency, said: "We are busier than in 1991 or 1992, and doing about 70 per cent of 1988 and 1989. The big difference is that firms gave three-year contracts in the Eighties — you get no more than a year today."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Welcome to Bjelke's world

MY AUSTRALIAN sources bring news of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, who enjoyed a controversial 19-year reign as premier of Queensland, until he was ousted in 1987. Sir Joh, now 82, is planning to turn his farm in central Queensland into a theme park, Bjelke World, complete with family museum, peanut threshing machine and news footage from his political career. There are also plans to sell peanut-emblazoned T-shirts sporting a "Don't You Worry About That" logo — to cite the former premier's usual response to journalists who dared ask him a question. He and his wife, Florence, were known as the "Flo And Jo Show" in their day, and have already had some commercial success with Flo's Country Kitchen, a pumpkin scone franchise. Sir Joh says he began thinking about the project after loads of admirers began pitching up on his doorstep. What next? Thatcher Towers?

Staying put

FRANK Davidson, top-rated food retailing analyst at James Capel, is at the centre of an unseasonal dispute. I hear that he had accepted a job offer from Kleinwort Benson, and was all set to triple his earnings with a basic salary of £120,000 plus guaranteed bonus of £60,000. The papers were signed, the starting date was agreed . . . and Davidson changed his mind. He is staying at Capel after all. To say this has caused consternation would be an understatement.

Granada, Granada

GRANADA, still in the throes of its £600 million bid for LWT, is — as its target never ceases to point out — a conglomerate. Do the folks who watch *Coronation Street* realise that it is made by the same company they rent their TVs and video recorders from? Do they realise that it also runs motorway service stations? And how many of them think it is Spanish? The Spanish connection does exist — the former Lord (Sydney) Bernstein, the company's founder, had a home in Andalusia, in southern Spain, and named his company after the region's ancient capital. So proud of the name was he that he tried to sue Ford when it first attached the Granada name to its top-of-the-range cars.

Six of diamonds

SIR Simon Hornby, who retires as chairman of WH Smith at the end of January, after a 12-year reign, is planning a stylish exit. He has just presided over the WH Smith Illustration Awards for 1993, which saw artist Tony Meeuwissen win first prize for his "pack of cards", which took four years to complete. Sir Simon, a former chairman of The Design Council, has decided to use the Six of Diamonds on the cover of the group's interim results, which he is due to unveil before he steps down in favour of his deputy, Jeremy Hardie. By all accounts, Sir Simon is already getting in the mood for retirement. At the awards presentation, he was proudly sporting a Mickey Mouse tie.

Age of innocence?

WE KNOW we said "no more Christmas cards", but Brunswick, the high-profile City PRs run by Alan Parker, had a decidedly low-profile card this year — a tasteful little number with an illustration from William Blake's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*. Experience, yes; but innocence? A PR company?

JON ASHWORTH

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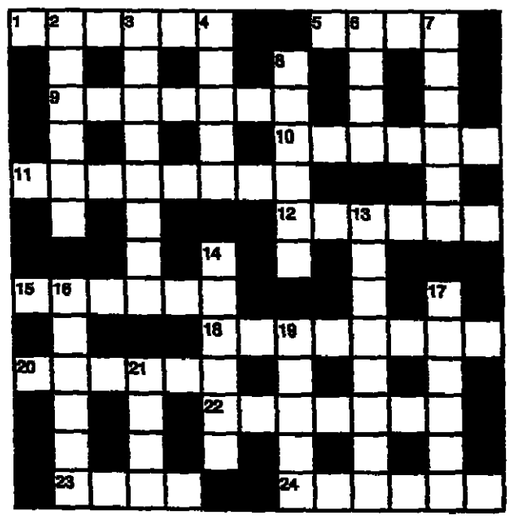
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 47

ACROSS

1 Small Asian ape (6)
5 Flyer; prison term (4)
9 Corresponds (7)
10 18C reformist MP thrice expelled from Parliament (6)
11 Distinct (8)
12 Paris museum (6)
15 Discontinuous (6)
18 Style of speaking (8)
20 Home of the *Two Gentlemen* (6)
22 State of which Munich is capital (7)
23 Adopt lazy pose (4)
24 Type of engine, ignited by compression (6)

DOWN

2 Understand by insight (6)
3 Cistern water-level control (8)
4 Unwanted sound (5)
6 Graven image (4)
7 Scuff corner of page (3-3)
8 Also (2,4)
13 Totality of creation (8)
14 S African native conference (6)
16 Showing sorrow (6)
17 Fold mark (6)
19 Blue, as of bruise (5)
21 Shape of Surrey cricket ground (4)

SOLUTION TO CHRISTMAS JUMBO CONCISE CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 Lord's Day Observance Society 15 Relayed 16 Extemporise 17 Nairobi 18 Eyepieces 19 Aerobic 20 Feel broke 21 Catch on 23 Instil 24 Papyri 26 Asset 28 Lanky 29 Willing for 31 All good fun 34 Long Range Desert Group patrol 39 Melange 41 Turn fifty 43 As diagram 45 Unwritten 46 Substance 47 Gulps in 48 Around The World In Eighty Days 53 Convoluted 55 Purposeful 57 Bogus 59 Climb 61 Tattle 62 Asthma 64 Nemesia 66 Abstinent 68 Atelier 69 Spare pair 71 Eyewash 72 Bacchanalia 73 Asocial 74 On opposite sides of the fence

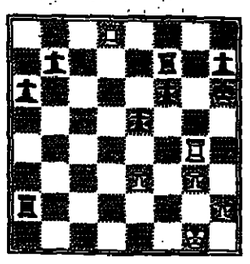
DOWN: 1 Large-scale 2 Rallentando 3 Stylishly 4 Asdic 5 Overspill 6 Satraps 7 Remarriages 8 Amoeba 9 Chitchat 10 Sheaf 11 Cantering up 12 Epic beano 13 Yoohoos 14 Disentanglement 22 Newsagent 25 Yolk of an egg 27 No profit 30 In derision 32 Furores 33 Ugly sneers 35 Gentian 36 Get on retest 37 Availed 38 Ambulance chaser 40 Low down 42 Fabulous 44 Digitalin 49 Trusteeship 50 Impassioned 51 Yugoslavian 52 Escadrille 54 Obbligato 56 Flagstaff 57 Bumped off 58 Clear cut 60 Issue to 63 Hurdles 65 Meshes 67 Tubes 70 Awash

Winning Move

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Gufeld - Conquest, Hastings Premier 1986/87. The Black king is in a tight corner. How can White capitalise on this? This year's Hastings Premier takes place at the Cinque Ports Hotel in Hastings from 29th December to 6th January. Ring 0424 445348 for details.

Raymond Keene, page 6
Solution, page 30



Word Watching

By Philip Howard

NIPSHOT
a. Frost-bitten
b. A bosh shot
c. Japanese chilli sauce

PALIMBACCHIUS
a. The hair of the dog
b. The thyrsus
c. A bouncing foot

DIMEROUS
a. In two parts
b. Deserving
c. Pettifogging

EBRILLADE
a. A one-handed jerk
b. Cheerfulness
c. The annual vine-pruning

Answers on page 30

هكذا من الأصل